

سكنا مندا

Central banks check dollar

LONDON (R) — Central banks hit markets with concerted dollar sales for a second straight day Tuesday and met some success in trying to check an advance in the dollar's currency that threatens inflation and trade problems. West Germany's Bundesbank unloaded about \$200 million on the dollar market, while the Bank of France and the Bank of Italy also sold dollars. As trading moved west with the sun, other European central banks and then those of the United States and Canada joined the battle to stop a flow of speculative money into the dollar — to which funds are being attracted by high U.S. interest rates. "We haven't seen the turnaround yet," said an American bank dealer. "But going up gets harder every day." In London, the dollar closed at 1.9665 West German marks, down Monday's close of 1.9185 and an overnight high in the United States of 1.9230. Banks appear worried that a strong dollar will put up import costs in nations outside the United States and thus fuel their inflation. It may also make U.S. goods less price-competitive and widen America's trade gap. But dealers say a global market which can trade hundreds of billions of dollars a day can, if it wants, defy even the combined might of all the industrial nations' central banks.

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لا غدا بعد اليوم
وصل حديثاً ولأول مرة إلى العالم العربي
شايف سوبرديترز
لايف لوبو
شايف التحف المزار

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Algerian foreign minister in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleb Ibrahim arrived in Ankara Tuesday for a seven-day visit to discuss trade and diplomatic ties. Ibrahim, the first Algerian foreign minister to visit Turkey, will meet Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz and President Kenan Evren.

Israel 'reassures' European Economic Community

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel reassured the European Economic Community (EEC) Tuesday that it had no intention of blocking the direct export of Palestinian fruit and vegetables to Europe. Agriculture Minister Aryeh Nehamkin Monday warned farmers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip that if they allowed Palestinian nationalist groups to take control of their associations, Israel would stop cooperating with them on issues such as exports. "The Israel government has told me and (EEC Mediterranean Affairs) Commissioner Claude Cheysson personally that it has no intention of departing from the understanding they have with the European Economic Community on these exports," EEC representative Gwynn Morgan told Reuters.

Shamir evasive on reported satellite venture

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir deflected questions Tuesday about a report that Israel was set to launch a spy satellite. "I cannot address myself to this issue but everyone knows that Israel has great capacities in many areas," Shamir said of the report in the latest issue of Time magazine.

Korean delegates to hold private talks

SEOUL (AP) — The heads of South and North Korean negotiating teams will hold a private meeting Wednesday to try to break to logjam in talks over the Olympic games and a non-aggression pact, officials said Tuesday. Chief South Korean delegate Park Joon-Kyu was to meet his communist counterpart, Chon Kum Chol, at the Panmunjom truce site that straddles the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas, a spokesman for Park said. The meeting was to be private, the spokesman said. No press was to be allowed.

Aquino: Marcos safe if he returns

MANILA (AP) — President Corazon Aquino said Tuesday she would guarantee the safety of Ferdinand Marcos if Philippine courts allow her ousted predecessor to come home from self-exile in Hawaii. Aquino told Filipino reporters that if necessary, she would send her military chief, Renato de Villa, to fetch Marcos personally at the airport. "In the event that Mr. Marcos is allowed by our courts to return... we will expect adequate security," she said.

Yang invites Assad to Peking

PEKING (R) — Chinese President Yang Shangkun Tuesday invited Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to Peking for the first visit by a Syrian leader, the official New China News Agency reported. Yang met Abdul Kader Kaddoura, president of the Syrian People's Assembly, at the Great Hall of the People and asked him to pass the invitation to Assad, who is believed to have turned down two previous invitations on grounds of ill-health.

Soviets conduct nuclear test in Siberia

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union carried out an underground nuclear test Monday in the Tyumen region of western Siberia, TASS news agency reported. TASS said the blast had a yield of up to 20 kilotonnes. "The explosion was made in the interests of the national economy," the Soviet agency said.

U.S. sees September shuttle flight

HOUSTON (R) — Despite lingering problems with the space shuttle Discovery, U.S. Space Agency officials said Monday they are optimistic the craft will take off in late September. No specific date was announced for the first shuttle launch since the Challenger disaster in January 1986, and a small hydrogen leak in the rocket system continues to mystify engineers.

Report: Saudis suspend Filipino visas

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia has suspended, at least temporarily, visas for Filipinos wishing to visit the kingdom, the English-language newspaper Arab News reported Tuesday. The reported move came hard on the heels of restrictions Manila imposed on Saudis wishing to hire Filipino housemaids. Informed sources in the Saudi capital said earlier this week that Saudi Arabia had placed an unofficial ban on the import of Filipino labourers.

Mandela 'recovering faster than expected'

CAPE TOWN (R) — Black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela is recovering from tuberculosis faster than expected, a South African doctor said Tuesday. Doctor J.G. Strauss, superintendent of Cape Town's Tygerberg hospital, said Mandela's health was improving all the time. He was sitting up in bed, reading newspapers and listening to the radio.

Khomeini attends Shi'ite mourning ceremony

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini attended a ceremony Tuesday to mourn the martyrdom of a Shi'ite imam more than 1,300 years ago, Tehran Radio reported. It said a meeting to mark Ashura, the biggest mourning event in the Shi'ite calendar, was held in a religious meeting hall next to Khomeini's home in the north Tehran suburb of Jamaran. Tehran Radio said Jamaran residents and Revolutionary Guards attended the meeting, the first public appearance by Khomeini reported in more than a month.

Israeli diplomat returns from Moscow

TEL AVIV (AP) — A diplomat on a mission to Moscow returned home unexpectedly to discuss his talks with Soviet officials amid media reports that Israeli and Soviet representatives will open political discussions. Both the foreign ministry and the prime ministry declined comment Tuesday on Yaakov Kedmi's report to Israeli leaders. But the foreign ministry said it was pleased by the Soviet reception of the consular delegates, who went to Moscow last month for the first such visit since ties were severed between the two countries 21 years ago. Ministry officials denied, however, that any political discussions were planned.

25 hurt in Johannesburg blast

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — An explosion shattered a fast-food restaurant Tuesday in the coastal city of East London, injuring about 25 people, police said. The blast occurred about 1:15 p.m. (1115 GMT) at a Wimpy hamburger restaurant in East London's central business area. A police spokesman said no one had been killed. He said the cause of the blast was not yet known, and he did not specify how many of the injured were seriously hurt. Police have blamed the African National Congress (ANC) movement for a recent series of bombings.

Uprising leaders urge PNC to adopt comprehensive strategy

PLO assumes full charge of W. Bank civil employees

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Tuesday it was assuming responsibility for West Bank civil servants who lost their jobs when Jordan cut its formal ties with the Israeli-occupied territories last month.

A statement by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, issued in Tunis by the PLO news agency Wafa, said: "The PLO assumes full responsibility towards the civil servants and other employees covered by this (Jordanian) decision."

Jordan announced July 31 it was severing formal ties with the West Bank to pave the way for PLO to assume its full responsibilities as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The PLO welcomed the move. A PLO delegation visited Amman earlier this month and last weekend the organisation's Executive Committee, chaired by Arafat, held two days of meeting in Tunis.

Arafat said the decision to assume responsibility for the West Bank civil servants was based on a resolution passed by the committee Sunday.

"The PLO shall shoulder full responsibility for the employees and workers as regards rights entitled to them, salaries and wages, on the basis of the regulations and lists of their appointments to office," the statement said.

The statements added that "all law and regulations in force in the occupied territories shall remain in force until such time as they are amended or abrogated by the Palestinian legislative authorities."

The decision appeared to take the PLO a step closer to declaring

an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with a provisional government-in-exile.

The creation of a "provisional government" has moved to the centre of debate inside the PLO since Jordan announced its decision on July 31.

Ham Al Hassan, one of Arafat's top political advisers, said in Cairo Friday that the Palestine National Council (PNC) would approve the formation of a "provisional government" at a meeting next month.

PLO officials say that apart from filling the vacuum on the West Bank, the government would be the logical representative of the Palestinians in any Middle East peace conference.

Arafat's statement gave no details of how the PLO planned to pay the salaries of the West Bank employees.

Arafat in Baghdad

In Baghdad, Arafat held talks

(Continued on page 5)

Palestinian killed amid continuing Gaza protests

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian died in the Gaza Strip Tuesday after a day of violent protests and fresh demonstrations broke out in a refugee camp there under curfew, Palestinians said.

Palestinians in Jabalya refugee camp said Khalil Yussuf Balousha, 42, died after inhaling teargas during mass protests lasting late into the night Monday. Palestinians said troops shot flares to light up the camp, burned three homes and dropped from helicopters what they described as a "mass of fire" emitting tear-gas.

An army spokesman said: "It is true helicopters patrol the area and sometimes drop tear gas, but nothing appears to us as having sprayed anything flammable."

In the Sha'ti refugee camp, which with Jabalya and three other areas was placed under curfew, fresh demonstrations broke out as curfew-breakers threw stones at Israeli patrols.

Troops shot an 18-year-old demonstrator, officials at Ahli hospital in Gaza said.

Troops wounded a total of 18 Palestinians during clashes with

demonstrators in Gaza the previous day, the army said. A spokesman announced Tuesday the army had demolished three homes of alleged petrol bomb throwers in Deir Al Balah camp this week.

In another development, Michel Sabab, the first Arab to be appointed Roman Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem, rejected an invitation to meet Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin who has held closed-door meetings with a number of Palestinian notables.

A church official told the AP the refusal was in line with the church's policy not to meet with Israeli authorities in occupied Jerusalem.

Jerome M. Segal, a university of Maryland professor whose writings influenced Palestinians who drafted a proposed declaration of independence, said a "turning point" had been reached in Palestinian-Israeli relations.

Segal, speaking to a Hebrew university audience, said Palestinians should act on their own to declare a state and seek international recognition.

"I suggest they don't need

Israeli permission to create a state," he said. "The Palestinians should be allowed to struggle and instead wage a political, diplomatic, economic and moral struggle."

Segal, of the University of Maryland's Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, said Israelis had exaggerated the threat to their own survival posed by a demilitarised Palestinian state in the occupied territories.

"It's no more likely than for Finland to launch an all-out invasion on the Soviet Union," he said.

"Stop using that for an excuse," he said.

He said Israel was a regional power and risked 50 more years of conflict if it did not agree to negotiate a settlement soon.

Protests over expulsions

Meanwhile, the European Community (EC) Tuesday protested to Israel about the recent expulsions of Palestinians from the occupied territories and its practice of detaining prisoners without charging them.

(Continued on page 5)

Sudan imposes censorship; moves against black market

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — The government imposed strict press censorship and cracked down on the black market Tuesday as the Nile river overflowed in Sudan's flooded capital Khartoum.

Radio Omdurman said the anti-black market drive was needed to combat profiteering from almost three weeks of flooding.

Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) said Al Sayed Abdallah Mohammad Ahmad, minister for information and culture, had ordered foreign journalists and photographers to conduct interviews and take pictures only in the presence of a ministry representative.

Ahmad's statement said news stories and films must be cleared by a government censor before being allowed out of Sudan, the agency said. It said the statement warned hotels and owners of private residences not to send stories that did not bear the censor's stamp.

Ahmad said the Interior Ministry would help his department enforce the restrictions. The restrictions were imposed shortly after Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi made a blister-

ing attack on foreign media coverage of the flood disaster. Mahdi told parliament Monday the reports mixed fact and fable. He named the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Meanwhile, reports said the waters of the Blue Nile had overflowed in Khartoum and Omdurman across the Nile. A BBC broadcast from Khartoum said the White Nile had left its banks near the capital.

The confluence of the two rivers in Khartoum from the mighty river that courses through Egypt and enters the Mediterranean at Alexandria.

A receptionist at the Hilton hotel, which overlooks the Nile, told the AP in Cairo by telex that the water had submerged several hectares of agricultural land and had reached the back door of the hotel, Khartoum's most luxurious.

MENA said the river broke through makeshift levees of sand and cement in areas of Khartoum and Omdurman, washing away dozens of homes. It said hundreds of families had to sleep outdoors after water flooded their homes.

In one area of Omdurman, the

agency said, flood waters were so deep that Sudanese were using boats to move around.

It said that the level of the Blue Nile had reached more than 16.8 metres, slightly higher than the water level on the same day in 1946 when Sudan suffered its previous worst floods of this century.

On the black market crack-down, Radio Omdurman quoted Major-General Mohammad Al Fateh Abdoun, Khartoum's mayor, as saying Monday night that regulations have been decreed to fight black marketeers, who have sent prices soaring during the floods.

Abdoun said food wholesalers and retailers are required to report the levels of their stocks to authorities within 48 hours.

He said merchants dealing in building supplies like cement, wood, zinc and all kinds of iron should provide similar inventories within a week. Those who don't will face trial, he said.

"Worse than the natural disasters are the moral disasters, which have prompted some citizens to exploit the bad situation as a means for unlawful riches," Abdoun said.



Major-General Slavko Jovic of Yugoslavia, head of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Observer Group, talks to reporters in Baghdad.

U.N. reports all quiet along Iran-Iraq front

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A U.N. spokesman said the Iran-Iraq warfront was calm Tuesday, despite charges by both sides of troop movements violating their ceasefire.

Iraq said Monday the Iranians, acting after the ceasefire took effect Saturday, reinforced their positions across the front from the Iraqi Fourth Army Corps near the southern town of Misan.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the Iraqis had protested to U.N. military observers supervising the ceasefire and the Iranian forces were now withdrawing.

"I don't have any comment on this subject so far," Saleem Fahmawi, press officer in Baghdad for the U.N. team, told Reuters. He added: "I believe the situation is normal today."

He declined to comment on statements by both sides saying Iraq had threatened to attack

unless the Iranians pulled back by 12:30 p.m. (0830 GMT) Tuesday. INA had said Iraq told the U.N. military observers: "If the Iranian troops are not withdrawn from their original positions, our forces will push them back by force."

An Iraqi military spokesman told Reuters he had no comment on an Iranian statement saying Iraqi forces had advanced towards Iranian positions in the area.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati sent a complaint to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar saying Iraq intended to launch an attack.

His message said an Iraqi armoured brigade had advanced between one and four kilometres towards Iranian positions west of the Do-Virar River.

IRNA also quoted Brigadier-

General Asghar Jamali, deputy commander of Iran's ground forces, as saying that United Nations observers watched an Iraqi armoured brigade roll up to the western bank of the Nahr Anbar river.

He said the Iraqis dug in and were now facing the Iranians on the other bank of the river in the southern sector of the warfront. IRNA quoted Jamali as saying that at the request of the command of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG) he ordered his troops not to fire or react in any way to the Iraqi movements.

Peace talks between Iran and Iraq began Thursday in Geneva, and the claims by both sides of ceasefire violations appeared to be in part aimed at jockeying for advantage in advance of the

(Continued on page 5)

Lebanese factions threaten to foil election if no reforms

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese factions backed by Syria vowed Tuesday to block presidential elections until rights are agreed to constitutional reforms that would give Lebanon's feuding groups an equal share of power.

"Nationalist and progressive forces will undertake all political and active measures to prevent elections until achieving national entente," said a joint statement issued by 12 factions.

They included the prominent Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia of Justice Minister Nabih Berri and the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) of Walid Jumblatt.

The six-year-term of President Amin Gemayel expires on Sept. 23, and under the constitution, a new president should be elected by mid-September.

The 99-seat parliament was called to an election session last Thursday, but failed to secure the necessary quorum of 53 members because most Christian deputies boycotted the meeting, protesting the candidacy of former President Suleiman Franjeh.

There are only 76 active members of parliament. The house was elected in 1972 for a four-year term. But its mandate was renewed several times because the civil strife prevented elections.

Franjeh, a staunch ally of Syria, was president when the Lebanese civil war broke out in April 1975. Before his term ended in 1976, he requested Syrian military intervention to end the fighting.

The pro-Syrian leaders wield considerable influence among Muslim deputies and political sources said their stand represented a tough line by Damascus after last week's debacle.

Many Lebanese fear failure to quickly elect a new president who can reconcile the country's feuding factions will lead to a new upsurge in the 13-year-old civil war.

Tuesday's talks grouped Junblatt, Berri and officials of the Lebanese Communist Party, the

Syrian Social Nationalist Party (SSNP) and the Lebanese Baath Party.

The leaders, most of whom held talks with Syrian officials in Damascus over the weekend, accused the United States and Israel as well as rightist hardliners and the Lebanese army of thwarting the election session last Thursday.

"We insist on achieving national reconciliation based on constitutional and political reforms that will guarantee the abolition of political and sectarian domination of judicial, executive, legislative powers as well as in the army," the statement said.

Last week's incident indicated a sudden split between Syria and the United States, which had worked together for a smooth election and a head of state acceptable to all factions.

If no consensus on a new presi-

dent emerges before Gemayel ends his term Sept. 23, he would have the constitutional power to dissolve the cabinet now headed by a Sunni and form a transitional government under a Maronite.

But Tuesday's statement vowed to fight with "political and material" means any such attempt by Gemayel. It did not elaborate or say outrightly if that meant the 12 groups plan to rekindle civil war fighting.

The statement also called for a nationwide "warning strike" Friday to protest the "American-Israeli intervention that prevented the parliament from practicing its role of electing a new president."

The militias urged their followers to "be on maximum alert to confront the critical situation and to continue the struggle in order to liberate the country and regain its sovereignty."

Quake toll scaled down in India, rises in Nepal

PATNA, India (Agencies) — The death toll in North India from a major earthquake is lower than first feared, officials said Tuesday after assessing reports from remote areas of Bihar state. But a grimmer picture is emerging in the Himalayan foothills of southeastern Nepal where casualty estimates are rising sharply after Sunday's earthquake.

"I expect it to go up to over 1,000 (dead) in Nepal alone," said a senior British official in Hong Kong.

Among the worst-hit Nepali towns was Dharan, a British army recruiting centre for Gurkhas, where at least 131 people died.

Many of the 8,000 Gurkhas serving in the British army are stationed in Hong Kong. A royal air force C-130 cargo plane was due to arrive in Dharan from the British colony Tuesday carrying the first foreign aid.

The Kathmandu government said Tuesday just under 500 people were confirmed dead. Earlier

it said it expected the toll to climb and that foreign aid would be welcome.

Up to 650 were at first feared killed in the Bihar plains, but Indian officials said only about 165 deaths had been confirmed. They doubted the final figure would be more than 200.

Bihar government spokesman Suresh Pandey said some remote areas had yet to be reached because of monsoon floods and poor communications.

"We are in the process of calling up rural police stations by wireless," he said, adding that a full picture of the tragedy would not be available for several days.

However, newspapers, opposition politicians and survivors questioned the government's count of the dead and injured.

In a preliminary report to parliament Tuesday, Agriculture Minister Bhajan Lal said he was told that 164 bodies had been found. He said the death toll would rise but "probably not to the levels earlier apprehended."



ROYAL INSPECTION: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has made overnight inspection visits to a number of military units of the Third Royal Armoured Division, and watched troops in training sessions. Prince Hassan met with unit commanders and was briefed on training programmes. The Crown Prince later watched exercises in which several Royal Jordanian Air Force planes and helicopters took part. Prince Hassan voiced his appreciation for the efforts exerted by commanders and troops and expressed satisfaction with the high level of training. The Crown Prince was accompanied on the inspection tour by Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and senior army officers.

Syrian minister arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Syrian Minister of Transport Yousef Ahmad arrived here Tuesday for talks with his Jordanian counterpart Khaled Al Haj Hassan on bilateral cooperation in transport affairs.

Both ministers will co-chair the general assembly meetings of the Jordanian-Syrian land and maritime transport companies, and will sign an agreement designed to stimulate air travel between Syria and Jordan.



Transport Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan Tuesday receives his Syrian counterpart Yousef Ahmad (Petra photo)

The Syrian minister said in a statement upon arrival that his discussions in Amman will cover all aspects of transport.

The general assembly meetings, he said, are due to discuss

among other things, the prospect of increasing the volume of the two companies' fleets, boosting their capacities.

They also will review budgets for 1988.

A major threat to health, phosphate dust loss costs JD 10 million annually

JPMC, RSS sign agreement to reduce phosphate dust in Aqaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC) Tuesday signed an agreement for joint cooperation in controlling the amount of phosphate dust produced in the process of loading the mineral at the Aqaba port terminal.

The phosphate dust is a major problem for the company, the importer of Jordanian phosphates and the residents of the port city, according to JPMC Director General Wasel Azar, who signed the agreement with RSS President Jawad Al Anani.

Fine dust rising in the atmosphere from the process of loading phosphate makes up between four and 12 per cent of the total amount sent for export or nearly 750,000 tonnes for every seven million tonnes of phosphate. This is a loss of nearly JD 10 million, Azar pointed out.

He said this dust floats in the air and pollutes the port region during loading and transportation processes from the mines to the port.

Present refining processes at the mines do not completely eliminate the dust. In addition, more dust is said to be produced due to friction and transportation, Azar added.

He said the agreement, signed with the RSS, paves the way for measures to control the dust.

The RSS will conduct studies and then work out plans, including installing equipment to separate fine dust from the phosphate.

The company will also conduct laboratory tests on the utilisation of fine phosphate dust in the manufacture of phosphoric phosphate, Azar said.

Following the studies and the RSS research programme, Azar

said, the company will install special equipment at the phosphate mines, probably by 1991, to separate dust from rock so loading areas in Aqaba would be completely free from falling dust.

Azar noted that the whole study would be financed from a loan offered to the JPMC by the World Bank. He did not, however, reveal the loan's amount.

Dr. Anani said the phosphate dust constituted a serious threat to humans and is considered a major pollution hazard to water

and sea life.

The RSS, he said, had sufficient technical skill and experienced personnel to conduct research studies on this problem, beginning with the establishment of four monitoring stations in Aqaba alone to determine the problem's seriousness.

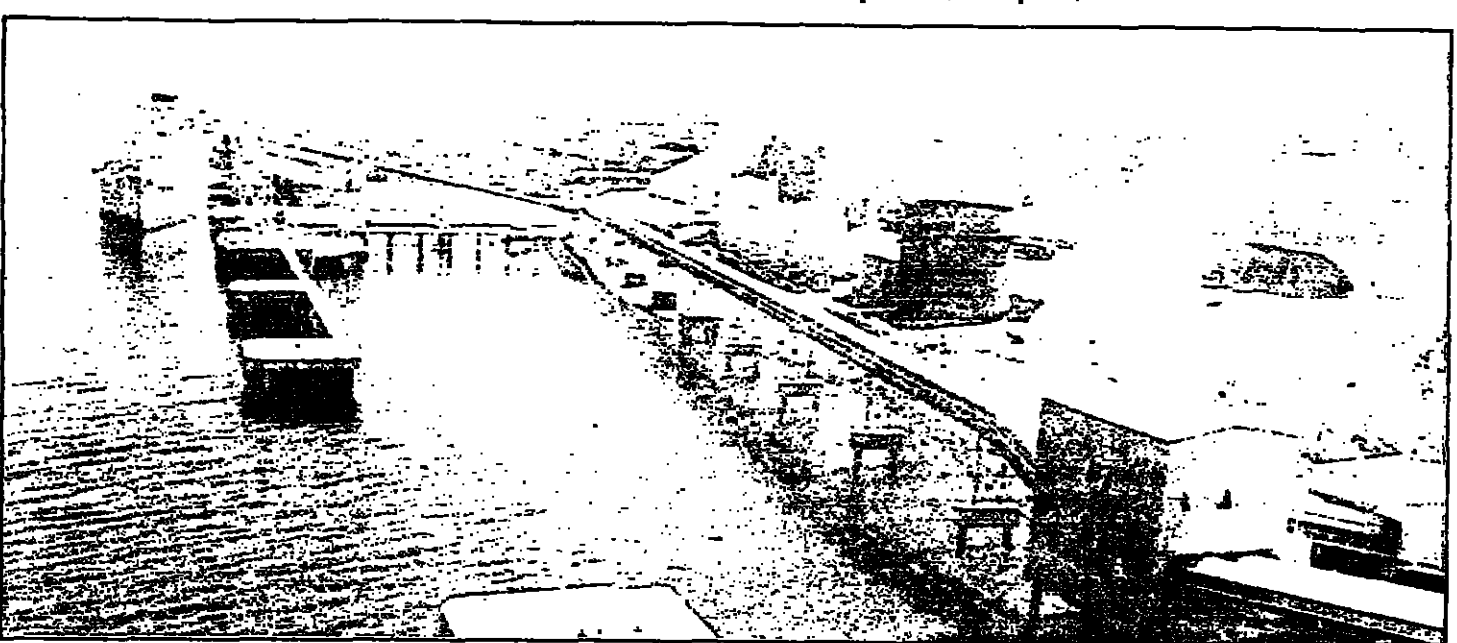
The agreement with the JPMC, Anani said, is for 15 months as a first stage.

Jordan is considered the world's third largest exporter of phosphate after the United States and Morocco, and is currently exporting its phosphate products to more than 30 countries in Asia and Europe.

Last year, the JPMC produced 6.850 million tonnes of phosphate at its major mines in Wadi Al Abiad, and Al Hasa in southern Jordan.



JPMC Director General Wasel Azar (second from left) and RSS President Jawad Anani (third from left) Tuesday sign an agreement by which RSS would study phosphate pollution in Aqaba and recommend a control process (Petra photo)



A general view of phosphate loading and storing facilities at Aqaba port (File photo)

Ministry of Interior extends W. Bank visitors' permits

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Interior will extend permits for visitors from the West Bank by two weeks upon request and in accordance with the visitors' needs and desires, according to the Director of the Ministry's Inspection and Follow-up Department Muhammad Al Udwan.

He said the security centres on the Jordanian side of the Jordan River Bridges are now granting West Bank visitors to the East Bank two-week permits through green cards issued to them upon

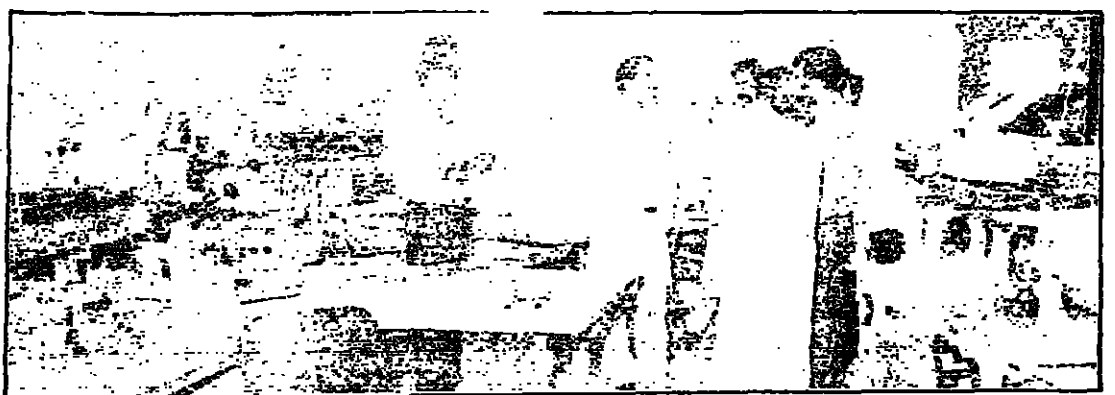
entry. But, he said, the period could be extended for an additional fortnight to give the visitors sufficient time to complete their business or leave the country to work abroad.

Udwan said students wishing to study here or abroad are also given a two-week visit permit to allow them to enroll at the universities, but they should seek an extension if they require extra time for the procedure, and should return to the West Bank in

the event they failed to enroll.

As for Palestinians working and living abroad, they should return to the West Bank once their contracts were terminated unless they have new contracts. This applies to Palestinian students also, Udwan noted.

He said West Bank residents who live in the Kingdom are issued yellow cards with expiration dates two months before the expiration of the date on the Israeli permit.



RJGC training college's laboratory for analysing aerial photos (Petra photo)

RJGC opens training college

By Ma'moun Arar
Petra

AMMAN — The Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre (RJGC) will open its training college for 60 students in the coming 1988-89 academic year. The students will be offered two year and three year training courses, the RJGC's Director General Okla Duhamat announced Tuesday.

Duhamat said the college was established in 1975 to train personnel for the centre and to offer services to government departments especially on producing

maps and conducting research. This college now will offer training in topographic surveys, aerial photography, cartography, printing and photography, employing modern techniques, including remote sensing, Duhamat said.

In addition, the college will organise training courses in surveying for employees in government departments and personnel from Arab countries, Duhamat noted.

To be accepted at the college, he said, students should have succeeded in the industrial or the

scientific streams of the twelfth examinations in Jordan.

He said they would be processed in accordance with regulations set by the Ministry of Higher Education.

At the initial stages, only 60 students will be accepted, including some from Arab states, but this number could be doubled in the coming few years, Duhamat pointed out.

He said the college has been provided with all the essential facilities such as laboratories, printing and photography units, sports grounds, restaurants and a clinic.



Monsignor Ra'ouf Najjar

sed the question of international cooperation in educational-related matters and the role of Catholic universities to promote such cooperation.

Catholic universities send protest letter to Shamir

AMMAN (J.T.) — A five-day conference by the International Federation of Catholic Universities, which concluded in Jakarta, Indonesia lately, has sent a letter of protest to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir over the closure of Bethlehem University and other Arab universities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Monsignor Ra'ouf Najjar, who is Bethlehem University president, took part in the conference, speaking in detail about education in the occupied Arab terri-

ories. He said copies of a protest letter criticising the arbitrary measures committed by the Israeli authorities against Arab educational institutions in the occupied territories were sent to the U.S. State Department in Washington.

Dr. Najjar told the conference that the fate of thousands of Arab students in the Israeli-occupied lands was changing as a result of Israel's practices.

He said more than 175 delegates representing Catholic universities around the world discus-

2 more AIDS cases reported

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) carrier cases have recently been discovered in Jordan, bringing to 13 the number of AIDS carriers, the director of the Ministry of Health's anti-AIDS projects and director of the communicable diseases department, Dr. Hani Shammout announced.

In an interview with the Arabic daily Al Rai, Shammout said that in 1987 only three deaths caused by AIDS occurred, the last in January.

Shammout pointed out that the Ministry of Health and other concerned bodies in the Kingdom have intensified their efforts to

prevent the disease from spreading.

AIDS virus, HIV, is contracted mainly through blood transfusion and homosexuality.

Shammout stressed that following the discovery of the first AIDS carrier cases in the Kingdom, the Ministry of Health restricted imports of blood and took measures to ensure that all imported blood was tested by the ministry.

He added that the ministry has so far examined 46,000 blood samples to ensure that no blood was given to any patient unless it was found free from any diseases.

Shammout said that the ministry would launch an anti-AIDS campaign this year among secondary school students, particularly students in their last school year and among community college students.

The director of the anti-AIDS project also said that Jordan was one of the leading countries in implementing the anti-AIDS programme, recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Shammout called on all students leaving for study abroad to avoid casual sexual contact.

In April, the Ministry of Health announced the formation of a national committee, charged with taking preventive measures to stem the spread of the disease by providing information to the public on the killer disease.

The committee groups representatives of the ministries of health, education, interior, higher education and Awqaf and Islamic affairs as well as the Public Security Department, the Jordanian Bar Association, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the General Union of the Federation of Jordanian Women.

Ministry to host WHO conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Health has decided to host a conference on primary health care to be held in Amman in December 1988 in response to a request by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

A ministry statement said that the five-day conference which will be attended by directors of health organisations and health ministries from the Eastern Mediterranean region would discuss matters related to family health, maternal survival, mother and child care and other related topics.

Prince Ali Hospital gets annex

AMMAN (Petra) — An annex to the paediatrics section was opened Tuesday at the Prince Ali Ibn Al Hussein Hospital in Amman by National Health Institution Director General Daoud Hanania.

Hanania toured the different parts of the new section which houses 25 beds. Hospital sources said that in the first six months of 1988 the paediatrics section at the hospital offered treatment to 10 children, but the new annex will offer further facilities and treat more patients.

W. Bank students' seats at universities reduced

AMMAN (J.T.) — Applications sent by West Bank students to enroll in Jordanian universities will be treated equally to those coming from students in other Arab countries, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily quoting Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad.

The minister said this procedure was taken following Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

He said the present number of

seats assigned for non-Jordanian Arab students at Jordan's universities will be increased above the present five per cent level, so as to cope with the new situation.

A margin of 10 per cent of the total number of seats at the country's four universities used to be assigned to West Bank students before the latest "break of ties," according to the report.

In addition, it said, community colleges in the East Bank used to assign 20 per cent of their total number of seats to West Bank students.

Arabian horse show set

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first Arabian horse show in Jordan is scheduled for Aug. 31 on the grounds of the Royal Stables at Al Hummar near Amman. The show is being held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, according to the Ministry of Tourism's monthly gazette.

The gazette stated that the two-day show will include tent

pegging, show jumping and equestrian games.

The Royal Stables is an officially recognised and registered member of the World Arabian Horse Organisation (WAHO).

According to the gazette, Bahrain, Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Jordan will participate in the show.

VTC trainees graduate

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Vocational Training Centre (VTC) at Yajouz Tuesday graduated a class of trainees who completed their three-year courses in carpentry, decor, auto mechanics, central heating, plumbing, air conditioning, electricity, building, fitting and welding.

VTC Director Burhan Shreideh delivered a speech at the graduation ceremony outlining the importance of the trades that the 442 graduates studied.

The VTC, Shreideh said, worked out a plan for training 30,000 students within the 1986-1990

five-year plan to provide the country with skilled manpower, enabling them to carry out the projects.

The centre's director told the audience that 1,100 students are currently enrolled in the first and second years of training at the centre, which also offers fixed training periods for workers already employed by Jordanian companies and factories.

The centre, he said, cooperates with 300 factories and industrial businesses in training the students.

SVENSKAR I JORDANIEN

Information om valet 1988

Röstmottagning för riksdags- landstings och kommunalfullmäktigval äger rum på svenska ambassaden i Amman (Shmeisani, Khalil Jouban Street, mitt emot Princess Alia College) under tiden: 25/8 - 5/9 1988 söndag-torsdag kl. 08.00-15.00. Även lördag 27/8 och lördag 3/9 kl. 09.00-11.00. Medtag röstkort, om Du har, samt pass-legitimation.

Oppet hus hålls valkvällen den 18 September kl. 20.00 - på ambassaden. Välkomna. Ambassadens tel nr. 66 91 77/78/79.

Information regarding General Elections in Sweden 1988

THOSE entitled to vote in Swedish General Elections 1988 may do so at the Swedish Embassy in Amman (Shmeisani, Khalil Jouban Street, opposite Princess Alia College), during August 25 - September 5, 1988, Sunday-Thursday at 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Also Saturday, August 27, and Saturday, September 3 at 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Please bring your poll card, passport and proof of identity.

Open house to be held on September 18 starting at 8 p.m. at the Swedish Embassy. Welcome. Swedish Embassy Telephone no: 66 91 77/78/79.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- * Art exhibition by Omar Al Basoul at the Women's Federation in Irbid.
- * Arabic calligraphy and art exhibition by Faisal Ashour at the Housing Bank Complex.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

الجزيرة الأردنية السياسية المستقلة المنشورة بالإنجليزية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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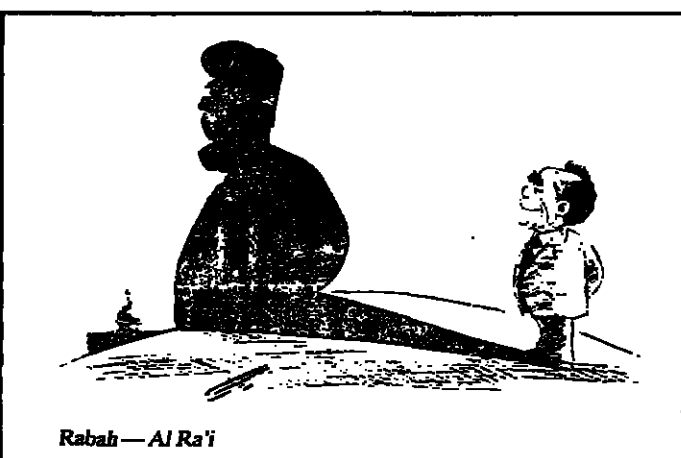
Beware of speculation

IN THE five weeks since Iran accepted a ceasefire in the war with Iraq, the currency market in the Middle East has been swept by all kinds of speculative tactics involving the Iraqi dinar. Much more so in Jordan in light of the close business links between the Amman market and the circulation of the Iraqi dinar. Adding to the murky waters was the foiled Lebanese presidential elections which boosted the Lebanese pound for about a week, before dumping it.

Notwithstanding the free nature of the Jordanian economy and its currency market, we cannot allow a handful of people to reap non-productive gains at the expense of the unsuspecting public. A line has to be drawn somewhere, since it is very clear that the sharp fluctuations in the value of the Iraqi dinar, as well as the wavering Lebanese lira, contain grave risks. While it was only a natural phenomenon that the Iraqi dinar should rise along with prospects for peace in the Gulf, there are serious questions as to whether the steep climb it recorded in the past weeks was logical. Who will pay the price before it settles down to a realistic level with the rest of the world's currencies?

The flurry of activity in the Amman foreign exchange market is expected and normal, as long as it does not threaten to undermine the national economy and the interests of the public at large. We are reminded of the speculation in gold in the early 1980s when bullion prices went up to as high as \$800 before tumbling down by more than 50 per cent. Memories of the losses that the process dealt to the public at large are still fresh. We would hope that the concerned authorities move in and take definite action to avert a repetition of such a disaster now.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS



Rabah — Al Ra'i

Al Ra'i: Mobilising Arab efforts

KING Hussein's visit to the United Arab Emirates and his talks with its President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan were part of Jordan's drive to maintain consultation with Arab heads of state and discuss with them current affairs. The visit took place one day after the ceasefire agreement between Iran and Iraq took effect and three weeks after Jordan's decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank. King Hussein is eager to mobilise Arab efforts and to unify Arab countries' stands vis-a-vis all issues of concern to the Arab World. Jordan realises the Iraqi victory in the Gulf war has removed Iran's threats directed at the Gulf states, but it also believes a united Arab stand should be maintained from now on to preserve security and peace in the Gulf region. Jordan's relations with the United Arab Emirates, which is in the heart of the Gulf region, have been progressing and developing over the years, and there is no doubt that King Hussein's visit and consultations with Sheikh Zayed are bound to bolster bilateral ties, and strengthen the Arab stand in the face of external threats.

Al Dustour: Still steadfast

THE Israeli army chief of staff made a statement indicating that Israeli troops have so far failed to quell the uprising in the occupied Arab territories. This is clear evidence that no matter what terrorist activities Israeli forces might resort to and regardless of the detention of thousands of Arab youths, the Palestinians are clearly determined to regain their rights and their homeland. The statement gives support to earlier reports that Israel has tried all possible measures to stem the revolt and carried out all sorts of inhuman practices against the Arab population to no avail. Admission of failure coming from a man who heads the Israeli military machinery proves to the world that the Palestinians are still steadfast and that their sacrifices and their struggle are justified and bound to bear fruit. The uprising can truly be described as a revolt by the oppressed people of Palestine against occupation and one that had absorbed all Israeli measures to end it at any cost. We are confident the Palestinian people will escalate their struggle against the occupation forces and attain their aspirations.

Sawt Al Shaab: Real momentum

KING Hussein and United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan discussed concerted Arab countries' steps in the wake of the Gulf war and joint efforts for the establishment of security and peace in the Gulf. King Hussein's efforts have always been oriented towards enhancing consensus and agreement among Arab countries and strengthening the Arab nation's position. His tours in Arab countries and constant consultations with Arab leaders reflect his deep faith in his nation and its ability to work for a better future for the Arab masses. The two leaders' talks concentrated on means of maintaining Arab solidarity in the wake of the Gulf war, and ways to give joint Arab action real momentum on the regional and international levels.

Israel's open season on Palestinians

Editor's note: The Palestinian Human Rights Information Centre (PHRIC) in Jerusalem has been publishing an "uprising update," which aims to clarify the existing human rights situation as it develops in the occupied territories, as the uprising enters its ninth month. The information bulletin is distributed in cooperation with the Database Project on Palestinian Human Rights, whose international office is in Chicago. These updates will be published in the Jordan Times as they are received. Included in these information bulletins are lists of those killed during the uprising, as

confirmed by the International Committee of the Red Cross. Lists of detainees, and updated human rights reports as they develop. While some sources and background material is publicly available, most of the information comes from first hand reports, fieldworker visits to hospitals, refugee camps, towns and villages, and from working relationships between the PHRIC and other institutions in the occupied territories. The material is collected and verified in Jerusalem and sent to Chicago, where the updates are produced and distributed internationally.

Three hundred nineteen Palestinians had died in connection to the intifada as of July 28; 214 from shooting; 59 from tear gas; 20 from beating, burning, electrocution and stoning; and 26 in related or ambiguous circumstances. Thirty-three of them have died since June 25, an average of one a day. This is a sharp increase over recent weeks, especially sharp since the end of the first week in July. Most of these deaths are from shooting. There are a number of cases in which people have been killed by three or more bullets. Three of the martyrs during this period were Christian, bringing the total number of Christian intifada martyrs to five. "This shows there is no difference between Christian and Muslim," said a Muslim shopkeeper in the Old City of Jerusalem. "We are the same."

The mortality rate from shoot-

ings has varied during the course of the uprising. Until mid-March, the announced policy of the Israeli army was to shoot only when soldiers perceived their lives to be in danger. The policy was supposed to include firing into the air, tear gas, rubber bullets, and then, as a last resort, live ammunition directed at demonstrators. The killings that occurred were almost always announced as having taken place according to that procedure, even when massive eyewitness evidence contradicted such assertions, even when Palestinians had clearly been killed by sniper bullets. That shooting has not been a means of self defence for the Israeli army is clear from the difference in rate of shooting deaths between the West Bank and Gaza. Between December 9 and January 15, of the 39 people shot to death 27 were from Gaza.

Between January 15 and February 1 no one was killed by shooting. In February 36 people were shot to death; 2 of them from Gaza. In March, 43 people were shot to death; 4 of them from Gaza. Between April 1 and April 14, 20 people were shot to death; 4 of them from Gaza. Between April 15 and 17, 18 people were shot to death; 12 of them from Gaza. The population of Gaza in relation to the West Bank has obviously remained constant during this period; the comparative rate of protest between the two areas has also remained relatively stable. The comparative rate of deaths from tear gas has also been constant. Yet in February, March and the beginning of April the death rate from shooting in Gaza was markedly lower than the death rate from shooting in the West Bank. This largely but not completely coincided with

the period during which injuries from beating in Gaza were far more multiple than injuries from beating in the West Bank. And for two weeks in January the Israeli army managed not to kill anyone at all with bullets. What controls the rate of deaths by shooting is clearly neither the intensity of protest nor any perceived need for the soldiers to defend themselves.

In the middle of March, Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced a policy whereby anyone seen to be throwing molotovs or other suspicious objects could be shot. Settlers were also explicitly permitted to shoot to kill. That this has resulted in a virtual open season on Palestinians can be seen from the figures. In the second half of March the death rate from shooting was practically triple that of the first two weeks (31 as opposed to 12). Between March 15 and April 7, 44 people were shot to death. By April 18, the total number dead from shooting had reached 159. On April 16, following the assassination of Abu Jihad, 13 people were killed by shooting; two more shot on the 16th died of their wounds the next day.

Serious injuries

Estimates of the number of reported serious injuries ranged

at about 2000 as of the end of January, but these estimates represent only a small portion of the number of people actually injured. A group of American physicians visiting the territories in February estimated the total number of injuries as perhaps 33,000 on the West Bank and 5,000 in Gaza. In general, Palestinians do not want knowledge of their injuries known, if at all possible, to prevent subsequent arrest. Medical treatment is also decentralised and record keeping incomplete. Checking on numbers of injuries has been hampered further by the imposition of curfews, preventing entry and exit to many sites. One medical relief committee estimates that it has seen some 12,000 people since the uprising began.

Tear gas-related deaths

The exact cause of tear gas-related deaths is uncertain. It could be that the deprivation of oxygen or the effect of the gas on blood circulation places a strain on sectors of the population at risk: infants, pregnant women and their unborn babies, old people, persons with respiratory or heart conditions. It may also be the result of toxins released (e.g., cyanide) when the chemicals break down. Types CS and CN tear gas, which are in use, are

lethal in high concentrations, especially in enclosed spaces. CS powder enters the respiratory system and lodges in blood cells, fatty tissues, and mucus membranes. Also the powder can stick to the skin and cause burning and welts on the body. Warnings against the use in enclosed spaces are on the tear gas canisters; nonetheless the gas continues to be used in high concentrations in enclosed areas.

Intrauterine fetal mortality

This table does not include information on intrauterine fetal deaths among women in the last trimester of pregnancy who have been exposed to high concentrations of tear gas. While the exact number of these deaths is unknown (many occur when people are under curfew and cannot obtain medical aid; these deaths remain unreported) physicians estimate that in Gaza alone, as of the end of February, there had been at least 80 fetal deaths. On the night of March 7-8 alone, 11 fetal deaths were reported among women in four Gaza refugee camps. While hard epidemiological evidence is lacking, some significant connection between the tear gas and the stillbirths seems clear. UNRWA is currently involved in a systematic study of the problem.

After a decade of reform China comes to a crossroad

By Jim Abrams
The Associated Press

PEKING — China, 1988: The year of the dragon, the 10th in the reform years of Deng Xiaoping.

What is the state of the nation? A land of great excess and discouraging want; encumbered by too many people (more than a billion) with too many expectations grappling for too few resources with too little money and not enough opportunity for success.

Deng, now 84 and semi-retired, says the political, economic and social reforms he initiated in 1978 have now entered a "crucial stage."

China must push ahead with price reforms without exacerbating double-digit inflation. It must produce more goods while reining in an industrial growth rate of 17 per cent, far greater than the nation's weak infrastructure and limited financial resources can sustain.

China must also give its people more democracy without unleashing the already serious problems of unrest and crime that accompany a less regimented society.

For all its dramatic changes of the past decade, China is still an aching poor agrarian-based nation where millions have never ridden in a car, seen an indoor toilet or travelled beyond the next mountain.

The government estimates that 60 million people live below the poverty line of 150 yuan (\$40) per person a year. In the dusty drylands of north-central China, where the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung built his revolutionary base 50 years ago, 30 million people still live in caves.

20% illiterate

About 20 per cent of Chinese, a number almost equal to the population of the United States, are illiterate.

But Deng, thrice-purged by Mao, has transformed the landscape since a now legendary Communist Party conference in late 1978 when he consolidated power, rejected the primacy of class struggle and announced that Socialism must be equated with economic development, not political upheaval and poverty.

Deng revived the family farm, encouraged free markets and said private enterprise is crucial to what he calls a "socialist commodity economy." He has traded off unwieldy central planning for production according to market demands.

More recently China has begun experimenting with stock markets, shareholding, land auctions and private housing. Cities avidly compete for foreign investment, and already 12,000 companies, led by those from Hong Kong, the United States and Japan, have invested nearly \$10 billion in joint ventures and wholly owned firms.

Zhao Ziyang, the new general secretary of the Communist Party, speaking at a landmark party congress last fall, emphasised that China will be in the "primary stage of Socialism" for 100 years. In effect, we have economists a century to tinker with capitalistic business practices.

During Deng's decade, incomes have more than tripled in the countryside, to about 450 yuan (\$121) annually per person, and doubled in the cities to about 1,000 yuan (\$270).

GNP doubled

One-fourth of urban house-

holds now have colour TVs and one-tenth have refrigerators. In 1981 the figure for both was near zero. Only a third of city residents have indoor plumbing, but a majority own washing machines and tape recorders.

China's gross national product in 1987 topped \$770 billion, more than double a decade earlier and up 9.4 per cent from 1986. Foreign trade quadrupled to \$80 billion, and 1.7 million foreign tourists scaled the Great Wall and viewed the wonders of ancient Xian, compared to

pay the consequences of losing money.

In reality, though, the manager still depends on government indulgences for scarce energy and raw materials, and he often must sell to the state at unrealistically low prices.

Alarming inflation

His right to dismiss redundant or unsatisfactory workers is rarely used. China, with an official unemployment rate of 2 per cent, strongly prefers having its excess labour force, estimated at 20 mil-

"For all its dramatic changes of the past decade, China is still an aching poor agrarian-based nation where millions have never ridden in a car, seen an indoor toilet or travelled beyond the next mountain."

230,000 in 1978.

The most profound changes have come in the countryside, where 80 per cent of China's 1.07 billion people live. Deng dismantled Mao's initiative-stifling communes and gave the farm back to the family. The farmer now contracts with the state for a certain amount of produce, and can sell anything above his quota on the better-paying free market.

Deng's assurances that it was no sin to get rich has led to "\$10,000-yuan-a-year (\$2,700) households," inconceivable during Mao's ultra-leftist cultural revolution in 1966-76.

Despite the successes, "agricultural problems are crying out for a solution," the daily publication Economic Information has said. Grain production, after hitting a record 407 million tons in 1984, fell sharply in 1985 and has yet to fully recover.

Bad weather is partly to blame, but a key problem is that the government, barely producing enough to feed itself, pays too little for contracted grain. Farmers have little interest in planting rice when they can earn two or three times as much growing watermelons for the free market or setting up a factory on abandoned grain fields.

20 million entrepreneurs

Beijing is also talking about the need for mechanised "optimum-scale" farms, meaning large-scale production. While no one advocates bringing back communes, there is growing recognition that the family farmer scrapping away at his average 1.5 acres (0.6 hectare) with his water buffalo and hoe, has little room for expanded production.

The most visible evidence of reform in China's cities and towns today is the 20 million free market entrepreneurs whose stalls of fresh foods and brightly coloured clothes clog street corners.

China also has 3.6 million people working for 225,000 "private businesses," or entrepreneurs employing eight or more people. These workers, often hired on fixed contracts, give up "eating from the iron pot," the lifetime employment system where performance is irrelevant, for a shot at earning more in a profit-making company.

Recent economic reforms have centred on giving factory managers more autonomy and adjusting prices to reflect market values rather than arbitrary state-set ceilings. In both areas, progress has been slow and arduous.

Under the responsibility system, factory managers are freed from excess interference from Peking or local party secretaries. The manager and his workers are rewarded for making profits and

lion to 30 million, loafing on the job rather than on the streets.

Price reform, highlighted this year by sharply increased retail prices for such basics as pork, vegetables, sugar and eggs, has been put on hold for the second half of 1988 because of an alarming inflation rate.

Consumer prices in June were up 19 per cent over the same month in 1987, the highest inflation figure ever announced by the Communist government. Officials say the living standards of 20 per cent of city dwellers declined last year due to rising prices.

Still, the government insists price reform will continue.

"Setting price ceilings is imposing the government's subjective

will on the objective economic life, usually departing from the law of supply and demand," the People's Daily said in July. "The consequences include worsened scarcity of commodities, rampant black market, heavier burden of government subsidies and worsening of the social mood."

While China is a decade ahead of the Soviet Union in economic reforms, it is struggling to keep up with political changes emanating from Mikhail S. Gorbachev's Kremlin.

Ending party role?

At China's 7th national party congress last October, Chairman Zhao ordered the 47-million-member Communist Party to end its direct controls over bureaucracy and business, and stick to a more lofty role of setting the nation's political course.

The party is also preaching the need for more democracy. Members of local party congresses, or legislatures, are chosen by direct election and the national people's congress, once a rubberstamp for party directives, has been given greater authority to shape and modify bills submitted by the party.

Deng remains the ultimate voice on party matters. But he also led the way in rejuvenating the party's aging leadership ranks last fall when he resigned from the five-member politburo standing committee, the party's inner circle of decision-makers.

Contra rebels losing ground

By Bryna Brennan
The Associated Press

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — The retreat of contra rebels and supporters to remote Honduran base camps threatens the survival of the insurgency to oust Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista government.

The action also reverses months of political and military advances.

Officials at the rebel camps said more than 14,000 contra troops and civilians crossed the Coco River border in the past four months into Yamas in the steep Honduran mountains. Rebel officers estimate that no more than 2,000 fighters remain in the northern Nicaraguan hills.

The rebels blame the withdrawal on the United States, which on Feb. 29 cut off military aid — a bargaining chip, they say, for discussions to end the war that began in 1981. Congress has voted to grant only non-lethal aid distributed in Honduras.

"Our forces can't stay in Nicaragua — surrounded by Sandinista troops — without bullets in their rifles," Enrique Bermudez, the rebel commander and member of the contra political directorate, said recently. "Military aid must be a threat to the Sandinistas to continue negotiating. We need to convince congress we enter from a position of strength."

Thousands of troops, many in new U.S. army uniforms, wait at the base camps, occasionally falling into formation. They buy each other's morale, playing baseball and checkers on homemade boards with toothpaste caps. Makeshift tents of wood stakes covered with plastic or ponchos dot the hillsides.

Trained by CIA

The population of the refugee camps swelled from 8,000 at the

start of 1987 to more than 13,000 at the end of June. Honduras claims that up to 200,000 Nicaraguans live illegally in its territory.

At one of the camps, new arrivals, their clothes tattered from more than a month of walking, worked under the tropical sun to clear the brush. Many of the civilians said they followed the troops because they would suffer Sandinista repression without contra protection.

"If we had aid, all our troops would be inside Nicaragua," said a 37-year-old contra official

Honduran base camps into Nicaragua.

The Sandinistas accused the contras of forcing recruitment and of a record number of human rights abuses.

Setbacks

Asked about the abuses, Johnson acknowledged: "There are still revenge killings by both sides, but it's not a policy of our organisation."

The rebels had their greatest battlefield and political gains against the Soviet-backed Sandi-

The contras' reputation as an unsavory band of ragtag thugs whose troops murdered civilians and kidnapped youths began changing in 1986.

whose nom de guerre is Commander Johnson. "It will take a long time to get back to where we were."

The first contras came from the ranks of the national guard under dictator Anastasio Somoza, who was ousted in a 1979 revolutionary war that brought the Sandinistas to power. A dozen rebels received training in Argentina in 1981 and others were taught by CIA-contracted Argentine instructors at Honduran base camps. The CIA was also held responsible for air drops of weapons, food and other supplies.

The contras' reputation as an unsavory band of ragtag thugs whose troops murdered civilians and kidnapped youths began changing in 1986. Peasants and young people joined their ranks, which swelled above 10,000.

U.S. Congress approved a \$100 million military and humanitarian aid package in June 1986. By the following spring, the rebels, well-armed and many trained in the United States, moved out of their

base camps into Nicaragua. The Sandinistas accused the contras of forcing recruitment and of a record number of human rights abuses.

But the rebel advances of last year suffered setbacks in recent months.

In a surprise move three weeks after U.S. military aid ended Feb. 29, the Sandinistas and the contra civilian directorate signed an agreement to seek a negotiated settlement to the war.

The ceasefire plan prohibited the fighters from receiving any military aid, but allowed non-lethal supplies to be distributed inside Nicaragua by a neutral international organisation.

Congress, citing the pact, withheld further military aid and in March allocated \$15.5 million for supplies ranging from food to uniforms and \$17.7 million for medical aid to child war victims. The supplies were to be distributed in Honduras by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

At about the same time, deep divisions emerged among the rebels.

Some contra commanders who signed the peace plan charged commander in chief Enrique Bermudez with corruption and called for a barracks uprising. The dissidents were purged and the troops rallied around Bermudez, who opposed the ceasefire.

Bermudez, a former colonel in Somoza's national guard, was elected in July to the seven-member contra political directorate and was said to have resigned his post as the military commander in chief. However, he clearly remains in control.

Bermudez, who recently visited the camps, listened as soldiers complained about the diet of rice and beans. Many of the new arrivals are to start military training in September, while some of the civilians and fighters will head for nearby refugee camps run by the United Nations.

But rebel officials said thousands of other fighters and civilians were expected to cross the border into Honduras soon.

Felix Mendocza, a Honduran farmer who allows the contras to use his land, said "incredible numbers" of rebels had entered in recent days.

"Nicaragua will soon be empty," said Mendocza. Bermudez called the cutoff of American aid "a tragedy for Central America" and said he will seek support from other governments or private donors. Commander Augustine, 29, a company leader who has been fighting for seven years, said: "I didn't want to come back here. We still have some bullets but we need clothes, boots and food."

"We're willing to fight until the last drop of blood. We want liberty as our destiny," said the officer.

Mohammad Atiyeh

Iranian rebels vow not to abandon drive

By Ed Blanche
The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Iran's main opposition group admits that the Iran-Iraq cease-fire poses problems for continuing its fight against Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic government, but vows to fight on.

"Under no circumstances will we halt our struggle against his government," said Ali Reza Jafarzadeh, spokesman for the Iran-based National Liberation Army (NLA) of Iran. "We will fight until its downfall."

But the Aug. 20 ceasefire will be a significant test for the ability of the rebels, led by Massoud Rajavi, to maintain their challenge to the fundamentalist Islamic government in Tehran after escalating their campaign from hit-and-run guerrilla raids to full-scale military offensives.

The Iraqis are unlikely to allow the NLA, composed mainly of fighters from the Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, to go on launching attacks across the border into Iran and risk being blamed for violating the truce.

Iranian and Iraqi negotiators scheduled to meet in Geneva Thursday to discuss a formal peace agreement to end the eight-year-old Gulf war are expected to seek assurances that both sides will curb opposition groups from operating from their territory.

Jafarzadeh, interviewed by telephone at the NLA's headquarters in Baghdad, conceded that the cease-fire could halt their attacks into Iran.

But he said that the NLA could "find alternatives to continue the struggle" against Khomeini.

"Geography has never been a problem for us," he said. "We can find other ways to topple Khomeini."

Asked what these were, he said, without elaboration: "We

have suitable tactics to implement our strategy. We believe we can cope with this new situation."

"Active resistance to the government of the ayatollahs will continue until genuine peace and freedom in Iran is achieved."

He added: "We've always called for peace. Peace operates to our benefit because it will hasten the downfall of Khomeini's government."

"Khomeini was absolutely right when he said that peace is poison for him. It will kill him and his government."

But clearly peace will hamper the NLA's operations from bases inside Iraq at a time when its leaders believe the Tehran government is the most vulnerable it has been since the 1979 revolution.

The rebels argue that the military setbacks Tehran has suffered over the last few months, including major assaults by the NLA, and Khomeini's unexpected, unconditional acceptance of the United Nations' ceasefire resolution last month underline the government's weakness.

The NLA has taken heart also from public statements by Iranian leaders that the rebels have become a threat to internal stability.

The rebels, in the most ambitious attack of their 18-month-old campaign, captured the towns of Karand and Eslamabad 100 kilometres inside Iran, threatening the provincial capital of Bakhtaran, last month.

Iranian President Ali Khamenei declared: "A group of hypocrites, two-faced and evil people, may appear in the country supported by foreign propaganda... to try to break our national pride... and make trouble."

Tehran claimed its forces killed



Iranians living in the U.S. stage an anti-Khomeini demonstration in the wake of a military success by the dissident National Liberation Army of Iran in July this year

led 4,800 of the rebels, who appear to have been stiffened with Iraqi forces, in a three-day battle and drove them back across the border.

The NLA admits it lost 1,000 fighters, its heaviest casualties in any operation since it launched large-scale attacks a year ago, but claimed to have killed or wounded 40,000 of Khomeini's Revolutionary Guards.

It is not possible to verify either side's claim.

Iran's official media have reported that scores of Mujahedeen prisoners and collaborators in western Iran have been publicly executed since late July.

The NLA claims the Iranians, fearful of the rebel threat at this critical juncture, have executed thousands of captured fighters and political prisoners to stifle resistance.

The Financial Times of London reported from Tehran last week that scores of prisoners have been executed in detention centres in the capital and buried in mass graves.

The rebels believe Tehran faces a convulsive backlash from Iranians who, after being promised ultimate victory for years, will question why it threw in the towel now rather than negotiate a year ago when Iran held a slight military advantage.

Diplomats in Tehran told the AP that there does not appear to be any imminent internal threat to Khomeini's government.

One reason, they said, was that many Iranians who may have been sympathetic to the Mujahedeen in the past were appalled by Rajavi's alliance with Iraq two years ago after he was expelled from France.

The Mujahedeen were allies of Khomeini against Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi during the revolution. But the fundamentalists turned on the Mujahedeen, and other leftist factions, in a savage purge in which thousands were killed or imprisoned.

354 dead, 12,500 wounded, 23,000 held

Israeli forces caused 1,800 miscarriages, PLO reports to U.N.

GENEVA (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Tuesday 1,800 Palestinian women had suffered miscarriages due to beatings or use of teargas by Israeli troops during the eight-month uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In a memorandum to a United Nations human rights panel, the PLO said since last December, 354 Palestinians had been killed in clashes with Israeli forces, and 12,500 injured, of whom 5,000 were handicapped for life.

Figures compiled in Israel and the occupied territories by Reuters show that at least 263 Palestinians have died in the uprising. Israeli authorities had demolished 550 Palestinian houses as a collective punishment measure, and held 23,000 people in "administrative detention" as well as deporting 28 Palestinian civilians, the PLO said.

The memorandum was dated Aug. 8, prior to an announcement by Israel last week that it had expelled four more Palestinians from the occupied territories, and proposed to expel a further 25.

The PLO memorandum accused Israeli forces of using tear gas "and other sorts of toxic gas" indiscriminately against civilians. The gas had caused many deaths,

and victims included children and babies, the document said.

"Since January 1988, the Israeli occupation forces have adopted one more cowardly policy against the Palestinian civilians. They have started to systematically attack pregnant women and beat them up, until many of them miscarry," it said.

"Within a few days since the beginning of this policy, tens of pregnant women have miscarried or given birth to stillborn babies as a result of savage beatings, or deliberate use of teargas inside their homes..."

"So far, 1,800 such cases of miscarriages have been reported."

Submitted by Nabil Ramlawi, PLO permanent observer at the U.N. European office in Geneva, the memorandum was circulated as an official document at a session of the U.N. sub-commission on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities.

In a related development, an expelled Palestinian, Jibril Mohammad Al Rajoub, told a PLO news conference Tuesday that since 1967, Israeli authorities had jailed or detained between 350,000 and 400,000 Palestinians and hundreds had died because of torture or bad conditions.

Rajoub was one of eight expelled Palestinians who gave evidence Monday and Tuesday to another U.N. committee here investigating Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

The PLO report spoke of house demolitions "as a measure of collective punishment," by the Israeli authorities.

"Ignoring the principles and provisions of international law, and with the feeling that it is protected by a superpower, Israel has gone beyond the violations of human rights, and has started to perpetrate crimes against humanity and crimes of war," he said.

Law in the Service of Man, an affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists based in the West Bank, said 60 houses have been demolished and 24 sealed since late last year. The group estimates that between 40,000 and 50,000 people have suffered injuries ranging from teargas inhalation to serious gunshot wounds.

The PLO report said that Israeli occupation forces and also often Israeli civilian settlers have been indiscriminately shooting Palestinian civilians on a daily basis since December.

It referred to a new kind of weapon that it says has been used since March 1988, grenades that are thrown from helicopters and explode on impact, firing tens of rubber bullets at a time.

The report also said Israeli occupation authorities have attacked hospitals and clinics, "storming them, beating up patients and medical staff."

Vassiliou aims for peace next year

GENEVA (R) — Cyprus President George Vassiliou said his aim was "peace next year" as he met United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Tuesday to discuss reviving talks on unifying the Mediterranean island.

Perez de Cuellar held 40-minute talks with the Greek-Cypriot leader before a scheduled meeting with Rauf Denktaş, head of the breakaway Turkish republic of northern Cyprus.

Vassiliou, asked by reporters whether he thought peace could be achieved within a year, as targeted by the U.N., replied: "This is what I hope to achieve — peace next year."

Perez de Cuellar will host a lunch for the two leaders in Geneva Wednesday, the start of joint talks aimed at resuming stalled negotiations on forming a unified federal republic. The meeting here may carry over to Thursday.

The U.N. chief said on arrival late Monday that he hoped a "climate of cooperation, of dialogue" would emerge.

He is to announce the date for formal U.N.-mediated talks to be held on the island in early September.

Cyprus was divided in 1974 when Turkey seized the northern third of the island after a coup by Athens-backed officers. Only Ankara recognises the northern Cypriot government, which declared its independence in 1983.

American forces more relaxed in Gulf

SANTA BARBARA (Agencies) — U.S. naval forces in the Gulf have relaxed their military posture somewhat to reflect a lowering of tension since a ceasefire took effect in the Iran-Iraq war, the White House said Monday.

Spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters some of the U.S. warships in the Gulf would make more port calls to allow shore leave for crew, and fewer aircraft patrols were being made.

Fitzwater said the decision to allow a slight reduction in activities of the 26-ship force was made over the weekend. The truce in the eight-year Gulf war went into effect Saturday.

He said the change was "to reflect a more relaxed atmosphere (in the Gulf) following the ceasefire." Fitzwater spoke as President Reagan was mid-way through a three-week holiday at his mountaintop ranch north of Santa Barbara.

The spokesman reiterated Washington's official stands that the U.S. presence in the Gulf, increased significantly a year ago, would be cut only as the threat to civilian shipping in the region diminished.

U.S. naval presence in the region was increased sharply from a normal contingent of three or four vessels in mid-1987 to protect Kuwaiti tankers flying American flags under an agreement made by Reagan.

Washington has said that even after a reduction was made, some U.S. warships would remain in the waterway as they have since 1949.

Although official spokesmen have refused to speculate on when an actual force cut would begin, defence officials told Reuters privately in Washington last week a few ships might be ordered home as early as September without being replaced.

The U.S. is also reducing the number of sorties to be flown over the Gulf, Fitzwater said. But Fitzwater said he had no comment when asked about a Soviet offer to withdraw its naval forces from the Gulf if other countries do so.

"We have said in the past that as the threat diminishes in the Gulf so would our presence. We are taking some actions at this time to allow certain activities that have been suspended in the past, primarily things like port calls, number of sorties flown off the carriers, a few of those kinds of things are being changed to reflect a more relaxed atmosphere following the ceasefire," Fitzwater said.

An administration official, speaking on condition he not be identified, said a decision was made over the weekend to fly fewer sorties and to make more port calls to allow sailors to rest, since there is less need to patrol.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

PLO takes full charge of W. Bank civil servants

(Continued from page 1)

with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Tuesday on developments in the Arab World, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Arafat arrived in Baghdad Monday and was due to go on to Tunis for a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee Thursday.

Uprising's call

Leaders of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories have urged the PLO to offer a comprehensive political strategy for the occupied territories.

The appeal was issued Monday.

In their latest communique since the uprising began eight months ago, the underground leaders of the revolt called on the PLO to offer a clear political strategy on the occupied territories that would win the Palestinians world support.

The communique was seen by

some Palestinian analysts as a call for moderation and compromise with Israel.

It called on the PNC to remove ambiguities in its policy and work to gather support for Palestinian nationalism.

"We are certain the coming PNC will make a clear and comprehensive political programme that will bring international support to our national rights, and we are assured the PNC will take practical steps to support the intifada," it said.

It also called on the PNC to work towards convening an international peace conference for the Middle East.

"There is no going back on the achievements realised on the path to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on our national soil... The Zionists (will) be driven out of our land so that we may build on it our independent state with its capital in Jerusalem," the four-page communique said.

There is "no sign of weariness

on the part of the masses," the leaflet added. "We invite you to extend the struggle against the occupation."

The leaflet called for setting up underground classrooms, planting crops for storage and boycotting Israeli farm products.

The leaflet also called for Palestinians to stage four days of general strikes over the next seven days in solidarity with those expelled from the occupied territories and with five Palestinians killed both in a fire in Tel Aviv and by Israeli troops in a prison revolt last week.

The communique criticised Israel's ban on a network of local "popular committees."

"We call on the Israeli public, warning them of the result of the policies of repression being carried out... against our people. This policy will only bring ruin to you if it continues," the communique said.

Israeli military censors barred Reuters from reporting the rest of its contents.

War-trapped Kuwaiti vessel sails home

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A Kuwaiti ship trapped eight years in Iraqi waters by the Gulf war has sailed home after the declaration of a ceasefire Saturday, the ship's owners said Monday.

The Ibn Al Haytham, caught since 1980 in the Khor Al Zubair inlet in the northern Gulf, arrived in Kuwait's Shuwaikh port Sunday evening, the United Arab Maritime Company (UAMC) said in a statement.

UAMC said the 23,890-tonne ship would be inspected and repaired before going back into service.

A Lloyd's of London underwriter said in March 1986 that 74 ships had been trapped by the war in another nearby Gulf waterway, the Shatt Al Arab, which forms the southern Iran-Iraq border.

The Ibn Haytham has been trapped in Khor Zubair since the outbreak of the war, UAMC said.

The Lloyd's register of ships however had no Ibn Haytham but an 23,891-ton Ibn Haytham vessel registered as flying the Kuwaiti flag and belonging to the UAMC.

The UAMC, like the Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency, are collectively owned by the Arab countries along the Gulf. Khor Zubair is a port about 320

kilometres south of the Iraqi city of Basra.

According to Lloyd's, there were nine vessels trapped at Khor Zubair, nine at the adjacent Umm Al Qasr water inlet.

The general opinion in Gulf shipping circles had been that the trapped vessels would be useless except for scrap after the eight years of being caught in the cross-fire of the war. The condition of other vessels remains unknown.

It had also been believed that Iraqi ports would not be able to operate without heavy dredging and mine-clearing after the eight years' halt to services, but it seems that Khor Zubair at least is operational. At least one of the first Iraqi vessels to sail out after the ceasefire had reportedly also left from Khor Zubair.

Lloyd's underwriter Mark Loveday underwriting agencies estimated that the ships caught in the Shatt Al Arab had an aggregate insured value of \$400 million.

Shipping operators say if major dredging is not required, the ships may soon be able to leave the waterway.

But they estimate that it may take two years to repair Basra at the northern end of the Shatt Al Arab.

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Palestinian killed in Gaza

(Continued from page 1)

A declaration issued in Athens, which holds the rotating presidency of the 12-nation bloc, said the community had formally approached the Israeli authorities on both issues.

The 12 called upon the Israeli authorities to assure the protection of the inhabitants in the occupied territories in compliance with international law and human rights standards," a statement said.

In Washington, the State Department also complained to a senior Israeli diplomat about the expulsions, an Israeli source said.

Obed Eran, the charge d'affaires at the Israeli embassy, was called in Monday to meet with Deputy Secretary of State John

Whitehead, said the source, quoted by the AP.

"They wanted to express their displeasure with the expulsions," the source added.

Israeli embassy spokesman Yossi Gal confirmed that Eran had met with Whitehead, but declined to discuss the contents of the meeting. The State Department also refused to say what the two men talked about.

U.S. aides visit W. Bank

U.S. congressional aides who said they are determined to "get both sides of the story" visited Bethlehem Tuesday on the first such tour sponsored by an Arab-American group.

The visit is organised by the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC).

Moneychangers see negative impact

CBJ pursues strict enforcement of foreign exchange regulations

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Economics Correspondent

AMMAN — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Tuesday appeared determined to enforce foreign exchange regulations issued in June while moneychangers appealed for a freeze on these measures and warned that such restrictions could create a black market.

The regulations, issued by the Economic Security Committee, banned exchange houses from opening foreign accounts and limited their work to trading in banknotes. Moneychangers say that these measures, if implemented, could, on average, reduce the volume of their operations by 75 to 85 per cent.

"This is a disaster," one moneychanger told the Jordan Times. "We may as well close down and go home." He argued that now that the exchange market is stable, these measures have become unnecessary.

The committee's decision to tighten foreign exchange regulations on banks, financial institutions and exchange houses, came in the wake of shortages in Central Bank foreign currency reserves and reports of capital flight after two flurries in the domestic exchange market May 2 and June 2 that put pressure on the Jordan dinar.

The CBJ Monday gave exchange houses two weeks to close down their accounts abroad and to refrain from dealing with money transfers. The June 22 regulations were originally supposed to be enforced within one

month, but until Monday, the CBJ appeared to be reconsidering the instructions after stability was restored to the local exchange market.

The ultimatum issued at a meeting chaired by CBJ Governor Hussein Qasem and attended by CBJ Deputy Governor Maher Shukri, confirmed that the government was determined to enforce the new foreign exchange instructions.

Moneychangers earlier appealed to the prime minister to reconsider the new measures which they said harshly affected nearly 200 exchange houses.

Press reports said moneychangers were taking part in speculation on foreign currencies, particularly the Iraqi dinar, in the wake of the Gulf war ceasefire and the Lebanese pound on the eve of presidential elections believed to eventually boost the national economy and the Lebanese lira.

Economists argue that such speculation put pressure on the Jordanian dinar but moneychangers assert that trading in these currencies remained negligible.

Economics columnist Fahed Fanek contended that while banks were complying with CBJ

regulations limiting capital flight, moneychangers were left to take over such "smuggling" of the Kingdom's private reserves of foreign currency.

The CBJ's rules limited money transfers to other countries to "legitimate" purposes, putting a ceiling of JD 5,000 a year for each individual.

The other side

Moneychangers claimed that regulations imposed on the local exchange market harmed the national economy and inhibited the inflow of money into the Kingdom. They said that following recent measures, remittances from Jordanian expatriates declined while capital flight increased.

"People feel simply uneasy with regulations," Ghazi Saudi commented. He said the new regulations "represented a 180-degree shift from the policy of openness."

"It is very strange that at a time when the government lifts protectionism and liberalises the market, the Central Bank goes in the opposite direction." Saudi told the Jordan Times. "It is as if the Central Bank is going east while the government goes west."

Speaking on behalf of a group representing moneychangers, he said that "such a sensitive decision" should not be taken lightly. He warned that the moment the CBJ measures were implemented in exchange houses, "they will be creating a black market."

He argued that "no regulations could stop capital flight." He

That is what worries economists. Most recessions in this country are brought on by a credit squeeze. While the central bank doesn't set out to create a downturn, it often finds it difficult to walk the fine line between dampening demand to cool inflationary pressures and tightening so much that a new recession is triggered.

"The famous soft-landing for the economy has proven very difficult to manage in the past," said Robert Dederick, chief economist for the Northern Trust Company of Chicago.

Dederick said he believed the current expansion, now in its peacetime record 69th month, would head into a new slump by the end of next year.

Economists at the New York investment firm of Merrill Lynch said in their latest forecast that growth could stall by next summer as higher interest rates and a



Hussein Al Qasem

cited Syria and Iraq as examples, saying that "there are a million ways for people to smuggle their money outside. There is nothing that can be done about it. It will only make it more costly, but it will not stop it."

Saudi said that the improving regional climate with an apparent end to the Gulf war "should make us reconsider restrictive measures. There is no actual need for these measures at a time when pressures are easing and things look promising on the eastern front."

He was referring to an expected boom in trade with Iraq in the wake of a Gulf peace which he argued would also make it easier for Baghdad to repay its JD 225 million debt to Jordan and boost the country's foreign currency reserves.

In a related development, Iraqi Ministry of Trade Under-Secretary Dr. Qubais Abdul Fattah was expected to arrive here Tuesday for talks with Jordanian officials on ways to finance Jordanian industrial exports to Iraq that exceeded the annual ceiling established by a bilateral trade agreement.

Industry and Trade Minister Hamdi Tabbaa told the Jordan Times last week that he was optimistic that a settlement would be reached with the Iraqi government on the export problem.

The fleet renewal project will be carried out gradually with the replacement of Tristars and is expected to be completed by the end of 1995.

The one-day board meeting also approved three strategy plans to be implemented in the next 15 years covering expansion in marketing planning and fleet renewal.

They will include new destinations and markets that Gulf Air can reach.

The board of directors have asked the company management to prepare and present these implementation plans at the board's next meeting in Muscat in December.

Moves underway for 'Jordanian Day' in Rome

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce is preparing for a "Jordanian Day" in Rome to promote the sale of Jordanian products in Italian markets and encourage Italian investments in the Kingdom, according to a report in the Arabic daily Al-Dustour.

The paper said a meeting was held at the federation's headquarters in Amman to discuss the main outlines of the project, which is expected to pave the way

for greater economic cooperation between Jordan and Italy.

The paper said Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa would lead a Jordanian delegation to the "Jordanian Day" event and would explain incentives offered by Jordan to encourage investments and privileges enjoyed by industrial units in the Kingdom.

The delegation will include representatives from the Ministry of Tourism, who will help market Jordan's archaeological and tourist sites in Italy, it said.

Jordan plans trade fairs in Morocco, Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Commercial Centres Corporation (JCCC) plans to organise trade fairs in Morocco and Egypt and to participate in the Berlin International Fair.

A JCCC spokesman said Tuesday the corporation was now preparing for the Morocco fair, which is due to open on Sept. 1 in Casablanca. A large number of Jordanian companies will take

part in the 10-day fair, according to the spokesman.

He said Jordan's products to be displayed at the fair would include pharmaceuticals, chemicals, engineering metal and wood products and building materials.

According to the spokesman, the Cairo fair will be held in December and Jordanian merchants will be allowed to sell \$2 million worth of products directly to the public during the event.

Gulf Air to acquire 4 more Boeing 767s

ABU DHABI (J.T.) — Gulf Air board of directors met in Abu Dhabi last week to discuss the company's strategy plans related to fleet expansion marketing and planning.

The meeting was chaired by Sheikh Hamoud bin Abdullah Al Harthy, Oman's minister of communications.

The board approved a proposal to add four more Boeing 767-300ER aircraft, bringing a total of six B767-300ER by mid-1989. This is in line with the airline's plans to modernise its current fleet of Boeing 737 and Tristar, a Gulf Air communiqué said.

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Relations improved last year leading to the release on May 4 of three French hostages held by pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon.

In July, an Iranian delegation visiting Paris suggested a partial lifting of the oil embargo and a barter arrangement that would allow Tehran to trade oil for sugar, cereals and meat.

The French government requested that domestic oil companies stop importing Iranian oil in August of 1987 after the break in diplomatic relations.

In 1986, prior to the embargo, French imports of crude oil from Iran totalled 4.4 million metric tons, or 6.6 per cent of France's total foreign purchases of oil and 6.4 per cent of Iran's crude oil exports.

France halted all imports of Iranian oil when it broke off diplomatic relations with Iran in July 1987. Ties were restored in June.

The June decision honoured a commitment by the former centre-right government of Jacques Chirac after Iran helped to negotiate the release of the last three French hostages in Lebanon.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Lendi retains No. 1 position

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Ivan Lendi retained his No. 1 men's tennis ranking Monday, but second-ranked Mats Wilander has cut Lendi's lead to its smallest margin in three years. With his victory at the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Championship Sunday, Wilander increased his computer average from 131.84 to 147.53. Lendi leads with a 155.00 average. That is the closest margin since Lendi took over the No. 1 spot on Sept. 9, 1985. If Lendi remains No. 1 until Oct. 3, he will break the record of 159 straight weeks as the top-ranked player set by Jimmy Connors from 1974 to 1977.

Moran signs for Sporting Gijon

MANCHESTER, England (R) — Manchester United's Irish international defender Kevin Moran said Monday he had agreed to join Spanish first division club Sporting Gijon on a free transfer. Moran, 32, who was with United for 10 years, said he had signed a two-year contract. "The offer from Gijon was far too good to turn down and the chance of a new start abroad was a big challenge to me," he said.

Zimbabwe names Olympic squad

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe has named a 30-strong squad for the Seoul Olympics to compete in archery, athletics, boxing, cycling, diving, judo, shooting, swimming, tennis and yachting. The selections were announced Monday night by Zimbabwe Olympic Committee chairman Tommy Sithole who said competitors eliminated early would return home to save money and to preserve morale of the remaining team members. The seven-man athletics squad, the biggest single group, includes Melford Homela who won a bronze medal in the men's 800 metres at last month's World Junior Championships in Canada, and Fabian Muyaba, a finalist in the men's 100 metres at the same competition.

Trainers move to ban coaches from bench

PARIS (R) — French professional soccer trainers have started a campaign to have foreign coaches without the required qualifications removed from the bench during matches. The Union of First and Second Division Trainers (Unecatec) announced after meeting in Paris Monday that they would ask the national soccer federation and the league to ban coaches without an approved training licence from the touchline. The five foreign trainers who would be affected include three Yugoslavs — Tomislav Ivic of league leaders Paris Saint-Germain, Miroslav Blazevic of Nantes

and Nenad Bjekovic of Nice. Artur Jorge, the Portuguese trainer of Matra Racing, and Belgian Georges Heylens of Lille could also become victims of the move which has the support of national team trainer Henri Michel. Ironically, though the campaign is clearly directed against the growing trend of French clubs to employ foreign coaches, three Frenchmen could also find themselves excluded from the trainers' benches. Roland Courbis of Toulon, Gerard Gili of Marseille and Jean Fernandez of Cannes all lack the necessary training diplomas.

Federation to discuss Kasparov-Karpov issue

MOSCOW (R) — The presidium of the Soviet Chess Federation will meet soon to decide whether a play-off for the Soviet title will take place between the holder Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov. TASS said Monday. A meeting of the presidium Monday failed to agree on whether the four-game match would take place after objections from Karpov, who lost the World Championship to Kasparov in 1985, over arrangements for the contest. The play-off had been due to start on Monday after Kasparov and Karpov tied 11.5-11.5 last week in the Soviet Chess Championship tournament that began in late July. At a news conference Friday, Karpov said he might refuse to compete because of a clause obliging the players to continue playing for a sudden-death result in the event of a 2-2 draw in the four-game match. "It seems that Karpov will not play," an official of the state sports committee's chess section told Reuters. "He is demanding a rest." Personality clashes have marked the intense Karpov-Kasparov rivalry since the two first met over a chessboard. They have competed against each other 130 times, but the Moscow tournament was their first contest for the Soviet title.

Japan wins junior volleyball championship

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Japan beat South Korea and China in the finals to capture both the boys' and girls' Asian Junior Volleyball Championship Monday. In the boys' division, Japan unseated defending champion South Korea by winning the final game 15-12, 15-9, 14-16, 15-10. Japan won the girls' final after defeating China 15-12, 15-5, 6-15, 15-6. Seventeen boys' teams and 10 girls' teams participated in the tournament which started Aug. 12. The championship is also a qualification round for the World Junior Championships next year. The three best teams from both events, excluding the South Korean boys' team will represent Asia in the World Boys' Championships in Greece and the Girls' Championships in Peru next year. All players are age 19 or younger.

Sanchez beats Durie in Jersey Bank tennis

MAHWAH, New Jersey (AP) — Sixteen-year-old Arantxa Sanchez of Spain beat former tournament champion Jo Durie 6-2, 6-2, Monday to advance to the second round of the \$200,000 United Jersey Bank Classic. Sanchez is to face top-ranked Steffi Graf, the 1986 tournament champion, Tuesday night in the tournament at Ramapo college. "I'm learning more in every match," Sanchez said. "I'm looking forward to facing Graf," she said. Sanchez, ranked 21st in the world, jumped to a 4-1 lead in the first set Monday, but Durie, of England, broke serve in the sixth game before the teenager won eight of the last 10 points to win the opening set. She jumped to a 4-0 lead in the second set and coasted to victory.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You would be wise to concentrate on the business and practical aspects of your affairs so you can increase your income. Don't be upset if delays occur which hold up some of your evening anticipation.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get involved in practical activities, show persistence, and get good results. A morning discussion can bring you valuable cooperation.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Take beauty and health treatments that can make you look and feel great. Make plans to see your friends tonight, and have fun.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Consult an expert who can help you become more prosperous in the future. Don't be forceful with anyone, or you could get in trouble.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A project you may start to do appears promising, but in the long run it could bring you a big loss, so study it further.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be mindful of all the details connected with your most important activities, and get the results you want. Plan a party for the coming weekend.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Make plans wisely so you can enjoy the recreations you like much more in the days ahead. Listen to what your mate wants, and try to please.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If a family member irks you, try to control your temper, and avoid trouble.

The morning can be happy, especially if friends drop by.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have the ability to make constructive plans and then follow them through. Discuss your goals with the people you see daily.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can handle business activities well but need to do them more carefully. Stop taking yourself so seriously, and enjoy life more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Concentrate on exactly how you want your life to be in the future, and start working in that direction. Don't upset your friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You think you've solved a personal worry, but look out for some new aspect that may come up. Handle an annoying job carefully.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get suggestions from an elder or an expert on how to achieve your greatest wishes, and be sure to follow the advice later.

Baseball Standings

NEW YORK (AP) — Major league baseball standings after Monday's games:

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Detroit	73	51	.589	—
Boston	70	54	.563	3
New York	68	56	.541	6
Milwaukee	64	63	.504	10½
Toronto	62	63	.498	11½
Cleveland	59	66	.472	14½
Baltimore	42	82	.339	31

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Oakland	79	47	.627	—
Minnesota	70	54	.565	8
Kansas City	64	60	.516	14
California	62	63	.496	16½
Texas	56	67	.456	21½
Chicago	54	71	.432	24½
Seattle	51	75	.405	28

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	72	52	.581	—
Pittsburgh	68	57	.544	4½
Montreal	63	61	.508	9
Chicago	60	62	.492	11
St. Louis	55	69	.444	17
Philadelphia	52	72	.419	20

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Los Angeles	72	52	.581	—
Houston	68	57	.544	4½
San Francisco	68	57	.544	4½
Cincinnati	63	60	.512	8½
San Diego	60	64	.484	12
Atlanta	43	81	.347	29

Liverpool line-up dazzles rivals as new season looms

LONDON (R) — Kenny Dalglish is pondering a line-up which would have Liverpool's rivals quaking in their football boots even before the new English season has begun — a four-man attack featuring both Ian Rush and John Aldridge.

With England internationals Peter Beardsley and John Barnes bringing the forward line's total worth to a staggering £6.5 million (\$11 million), the reigning champions' hopes of winning their 10th league title in 14 seasons are understandably high.

Dalglish, spoilt for choice and the envy of most of his fellow-managers in the first division, had considered dropping Aldridge for Welshman Rush, making a sudden return after a year in Italy with Juventus.

But Aldridge's two goals in Liverpool's Charity Shield victory over F.A. Cup holders Wimbledon last Saturday have made him think again.

"Rush and Aldridge have played together before and they played well," Dalglish said. "There are a lot of people who would like to try that again."

But the fans on Liverpool's famous KOP terraces — who besieged the club's season ticket

offices after the announcement of Rush's return — may have to wait to see their hero.

Liverpool kick off the season Saturday away at London club Charlton and there is no guarantee that Rush, who has been suffering from a virus, will be fit to play for a week or two.

"We are still waiting for his international clearance from Italy and we've got to take a look at his fitness," said Dalglish whose side will set out to beat last season's record-equaling start of 29 matches without defeat.

But those determined to prevent another Liverpool walkover — the northern club lost only two of their 40 matches last year — have also been out shopping over the summer break.

Twenty million pounds (\$33.6 million) have been spent, with six players, apart from Rush, changing hands at one million pounds (\$1.68 million) or more.

Tottenham also reported a rush

for season tickets after buying talented midfielder Paul Gascoigne from Newcastle for £2.2 million (\$3.7 million) and expect a big crowd for their opening tie at home against Coventry.

Everton, disappointed with fourth place last season after winning the championship in 1985 and 1987, paid £2.5 million (\$4.2 million) for West Ham and England striker Tony Cottee in a bid to step up their local feud with Liverpool.

The two clubs have kept the league trophy in the city of Liverpool for seven years running.

Manchester United, runners-up last year, have brought Mark Hughes home from Barcelona to help them chase their first title since 1967. They open at home to Queen's Park Rangers.

But United captain Bryan Robson starts the season with personal problems — he has been summoned to appear in court on a drunken driving charge next month.

Other clubs have worries of their own. Wimbledon are on three months' probation, under threat of further fines by the Football Association (F.A.), after a poor disciplinary record last year.

Coe's Olympic hopes still alive

LONDON (AP) — It could never happen to just an ordinary Olympic athlete.

But in the eyes of the man who runs the world's most famous international sports festival, Sebastian Coe is no ordinary competitor.

Two weeks after Coe performed disastrously in the British Olympic trials and appeared to bring down the curtain on his illustrious running career, International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch is waging a personal campaign to allow the two-time 1,500-metre champion to defend his title in Seoul. A record 161 nations are to take part in the Olympics.

Samaranch wants Coe in Seoul, even if it means slightly bending the rules.

According to British news reports, Samaranch is considering a unique "wild card" invitation that would allow 31-year-old Coe to compete at next month's games.

The move came two days after British track chiefs "politely but firmly" rejected an unprecedented plea by Samaranch to select Coe, who was omitted from the country's Olympic roster after a dismal performance in the national trials.

Samaranch made a plea for Coe's inclusion in a letter to the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB), describing him as "great Olympic champion." The athletic board described the request as extraordinary and said it could not find room for the middle-distance star.

But the board also informed Samaranch that it would not be opposed to Coe getting a backdoor, wild card entry by the IOC, allowing him to seek a record third straight 1,500-metre Olym-

pic title.

British Olympic Association chairman Charles Palmer confirmed reports that Coe, who is currently suffering from a virus, might get to participate in the Olympics at Seoul.

Asked to suggest whether Coe would end up going to Seoul, Palmer said: "I'm not a gambling man, but if I had to bet, I'd say 'yes'."

Palmer said Samaranch was "quietly optimistic" that a place could be found for Coe. His 800-metre world record set in 1981 still stands.

The bypassing of Coe caused an outcry here following the British trials two weeks ago, where he finished fourth in his 1,500-metre heat, failed to make the final, and then skipped the 800-metre event.

The British board council decided, reportedly by one vote, to leave Coe out of the team and

allow Peter Elliott to run in both events in Seoul, a move that appeared to signal the end of Coe's sparkling international career that has reaped 12 world records.

Coe, who withdrew from a low-key domestic meet over the weekend because of illness, was quoted as saying he was honoured by the intervention of Samaranch, reported to be vacationing in Spain.

"I'm obviously honoured that the president of the IOC has decided to write a letter of such substance," Coe said. "I think it's always been a concern of the IOC that we have the traditions and the history of the Olympic games and we remember there are champions around and that it's always nice to see them competing."

Coe, who has not raced internationally since the trials, is expected to make his next appearance at the Moli-IAAF Grand Prix final in West Berlin Friday.

Johnson returns home to rethink plans for Seoul

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — World record holder Ben Johnson, his hopes of winning the Olympic 100 metres gold medal shattered by two defeats in five days, returned home to Canada Monday to rethink his plans for Seoul.

"I've got four weeks, I've got to sit down and think and plan," Johnson said after finishing a humiliating third in the 100 metres at Sunday's Cologne Athletics Grand Prix.

Johnson had intended to compete in the Grand Prix finale in West Berlin Friday, but he scrapped those plans. "We're out of

here," his coach George Francis confirmed, shaking his head in frustration at his charge's poor form.

Johnson admitted that his recent schedule after coming back from injury had not given him the same amount of time to recover between races as in 1987 when he smashed the world record at the World Championships in Rome.

"We didn't have much time to rest," he said. "Last year we had much more time to rest."

Johnson tore his left hamstring in Tokyo on May 13 and missed a lot of all-important early season training.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

TWO BOUTS OF BIDDING

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 9 8
♥ 9 7 4
♦ Q 5
♣ A J 4 2

EAST
♠ 10 6 5 3
♥ 7 2
♦ A K J 10 6 5
♣ Q 8 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 4
♥ Void
♦ A 7 6 2
♣ Q 10 7 6 5 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ 1♥ DM 4♥
Pass Pass 4♠ Pass
Pass DM 5♠ 5♥
6♠ DM 5♠ Pass
Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
Most games have rounds of bidding. The auction shown is as it occurred at the table, and consists of two distinct bouts.

The first should have ended with four spades, except that West elected to double. That brought every body to life again, and the second bout concluded with North-South landing in six clubs. West upped the ante again, probably on the theory

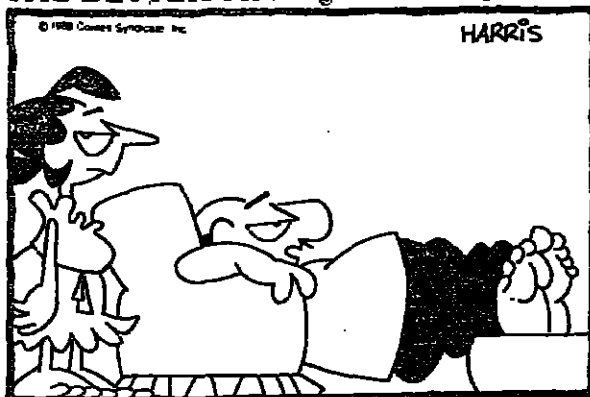
that anyone who contracted originally for only 10 tricks could not possibly make 12, especially in another strain.

The play went as if glass cards were in use. Sitting South was Sylvia Haxon, wife of our legal adviser. Lesser mortals might have tried the trump finesse, and gone down as the cards lay. Sylvia ruffed the opening heart lead, then spurned the trump finesse in favor of crossing to the ace of clubs and ruffing another heart. Since an entry was urgently needed for another heart ruff, declarer overtook the queen of spades with the king then ruffed the last heart.

Spades had to be stripped to complete the end play, but declarer could not afford another ruff. Since the spade length was marked with West, declarer cashed the ace of spades, then boldly finessed the nine. East refused to ruff this as well as the fourth spade, but she was only postponing the evil moment. A trump to the king left East on play when she held nothing but red cards. A heart return would allow declarer to ruff while discarding a losing diamond from dummy; a diamond would be away from the king into declarer's combined ace-queen tenace. Either way, the slam would roll home.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I'm too tired to sleep! Could you do it for me?"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

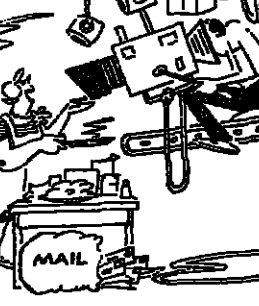
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MYNAL

LAHZE

PORRAL

SPYNAP



WHAT THAT POPULAR CHEF CORRESPONDS WITH.

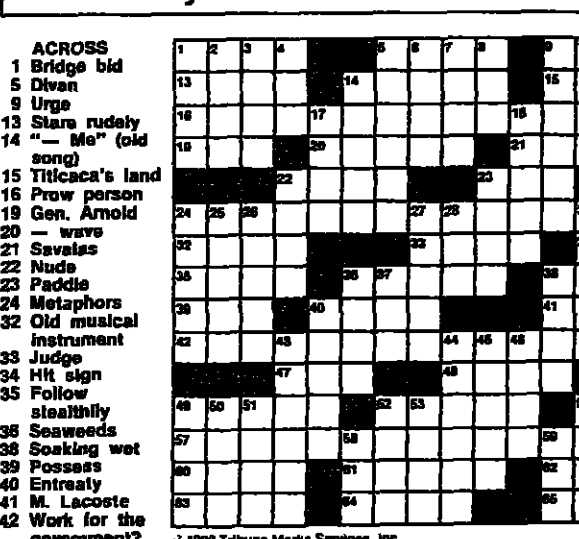
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: C O O K (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: VALVE FIFTY BECALM DENTAL

Answer: When he lost his keys and couldn't get in, he ran around the house until he was this— ALL IN

THE Daily Crossword by James V. Schick



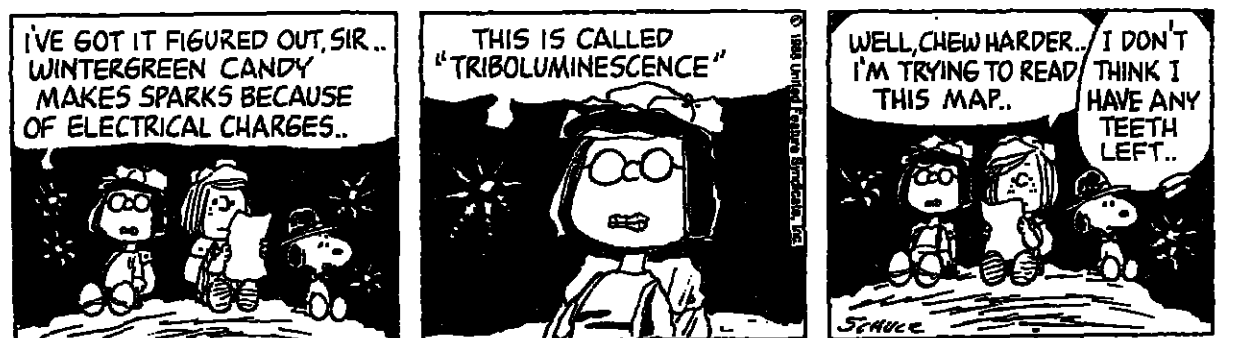
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solution:

ACROSS
1 Bridge bid
5 Diner
9 Urge
13 Stars rudely
14 "— Me" (old song)
15 Titlaca's land
16 Prow person
19 Gen. Arnold
20 were
21 Savalas
22 Nuda
23 Paddies
24 Metaphors
32 Old musical instrument
33 Judge
34 Hit sign
35 Follow stealthily
36 Seaweed
38 Soaking wet
39 Possess
40 Entrust
41 M. Lacoste
42 Work for the government?
47 Help!
48 Destroy
49 La. native
52 Lewis' partner
54 Harbor boat
57 C.D. Gibson
60 "Green Gables" girl
61 Poker stakes
62 G.I. outfit
63 Equal
64 Harry's lady
65 Loch —

DOWN
1 Luxurious
2 Moslem commander
3 Move smoothly
4 Mx.
5 Playground items
6 Russ. saint
7 Offensive
8 Comp.
9 Rampa
10 Rind
11 USSR range
12 Singer Vallejo of old
14 Burning ideal
17 Headliner
18 Day's march
22 Ives
23 Bonet prof.
24 "Eat the — the land"
25 "I came, — conquered, — progressing"
26 Bach
27 Instrument
28 Govt. org.
29 Eng. county
30 Old woman
31 Expectations
32 Pub quaffs
37 Zodiac
38 Ir. islands
40 The
43 High interest leader
44 Wipes off
45 Ridea waves
46 Hoyerdah's sign
48 Bloke
50 Tops
51 Bridal month
52 Flog
53 WWII crash
54 Air
55 "Exodus"
56 Obtains
58 Sol. room
59 Firearm

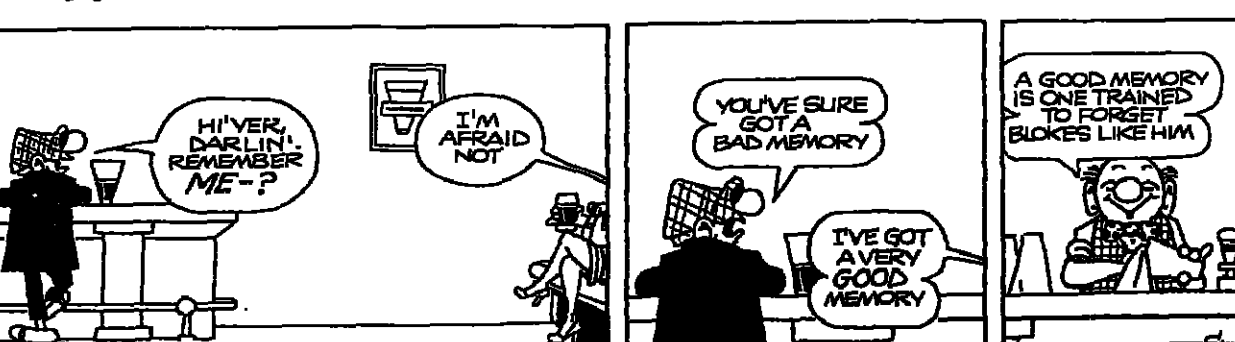
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



South Africa signs truce accord with Cuba, Angola

RUACANA, Namibia (Agencies) — South Africa Monday formally signed a ceasefire accord with a combined Cuban and Angolan delegation agreeing to end hostilities in the 13-year-old Angolan civil war.

The agreement, signed at South African military base near the northern Namibian town of Ruacana about 200 metres from the Angolan border, provides for the establishment of a joint monitoring committee to oversee the ceasefire.

"This is a memorable day towards the establishment of peace and stability in this region," said Major General Willie Meyer, the officer heading the South African delegation.

The accord follows a series of meetings last week between high-ranking South African, Angolan and Cuban officers and provides for the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola by Sept. 1.

IRA claims responsibility for car bomb

BELFAST (AP) — The outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) detonated a car bomb in east Belfast last night, killing a man and wounding a woman.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said the victim, thought to be a 45-year-old recruiting officer, was the only casualty when the car burst into flames in traffic east of the city centre.

The IRA, which has focused its campaign of violence on British security forces, claimed responsibility for the attack in a telephone call to a Northern Ireland radio station.

The IRA said it had carried out "the execution of a British soldier."

The call came three days after the group claimed responsibility for a bombing that killed eight British soldiers.

The bomb exploded as the victim drove his grey Ford Capri over the Queens bridge. Free-lance photographer Crispin Rodwell said he was 50 metres behind as the car pulled away from traffic lights.

"As it went to move off, it disappeared in a ball of fire," Rodwell said. "It was immediately underneath a flyover (overpass) and the debris ricocheted off the underside of the flyover."

"Some other cars stopped and some guys jumped out with fire extinguishers. They tried to put out the fire but they could not get anywhere near. They were beaten back by the flames. It was just a fireball."

Three people were treated for shock at a nearby hospital.

"There was a woman in a silver (Volvo) which veered off the road and hit one of the flyover supports," Rodwell said. "I think she was OK but she was taken away very shocked."

U.S. says Kabul breeds terrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — A State Department report said Monday that terrorism in Pakistan by agents of Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government accounted for more than half the incidents of state-sponsored terrorism worldwide last year.

Out of 189 state-sponsored incidents, Afghanistan carried out 127 against Pakistan in its campaign of retaliation for Pakistan's backing of Afghanistan's anti-communist guerrilla movement, the report said.

The deal, drafted in Geneva last month, is still incomplete but envisages the eventual withdrawal of Cuba's estimated 50,000 troops from Angola.

It also stipulates that South Africa should end its 70-year-old rule of Namibia and allow the United Nations to guide the territory towards independence from Nov. 1.

These proposals will be discussed further later this week when the three countries meet for the next round of peace talks in the Congolese capital of Brazzaville.

The ceasefire agreement,

drawn up in English, Spanish and Portuguese, was signed by Meyer as well as the commander-in-chief of the combined Cuban and Angolan forces, General Leopoldo Cintrón Fariás of Cuba, and Colonel Antonio Jose Maria, head of the Angolan delegation.

Jose Maria described the accord as a practical expression by all the parties of a desire for a just and dignified peace.

Fariás said the negotiations had taken place in an atmosphere of respect and responsibility.

The delegates said in a statement that the joint monitoring committee would supervise and determine the rules for the ceasefire and decide on action to be taken in the case of violations.

They said 11 monitoring posts manned by South African and Angolan troops would be established along the border and the joint monitoring committee

would meet on alternate days in Angola and Namibia from Aug. 30.

The negotiations did not include the South African and U.S.-supported guerrilla organisation UNITA. UNITA — the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — has vowed to keep fighting against the Angolan government until it agrees to negotiations.

Angola has said it will not negotiate with UNITA, which seeks to share power in the African nation following its failure to gain control of the government upon independence from Portugal in 1975.

The Cuban troops entered Angola to join government forces in fighting local guerrillas and help defend against South African incursions from Namibia and raids by South African-supported Angolan rebels.

Japan to continue defence buildup

TOKYO (AP) — In the face of a continuing Soviet military buildup in the Far East, Japan will continue a five-year defence expansion programme, the defence agency said Tuesday.

The decision is likely to keep Japan's military spending above 1 per cent of its gross national product, a 1976 defence spending ceiling abandoned last year by the government.

The budget for defence-related expenses for the current fiscal year is 3.7 trillion yen (\$28 billion), an estimated 1.013 per cent of Japan's GNP.

Defence spending is a sensitive issue in Japan, where anti-military sentiment has been strong since the militarism of World War II. The constitution renounces war.

Other Asian nations such as South Korea, China, and Indonesia have objected to Japan's increased military spending, accusing Japan of trying to once again become a military power.

Bush increases lead over Dukakis in poll

NEW YORK (AP) — A nationwide poll said the Republican National Convention has boosted Vice President George Bush to a narrow lead in the presidential race, although many voters harbour doubts about Bush's running mate.

In the poll results released Monday, half the respondents in the CBS news survey said they did not believe that Bush's running mate, Senator Dan Quayle, has the experience to be a good president. Another 28 per cent were unsure. Thirty-nine per cent said they wished Bush chose someone else.

The poll of 1,221 registered voters said Bush led Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis by 46 per cent to 40 per cent. Early this month, after the Democratic national convention, Dukakis had led by 17 points.

The survey released Monday



Angele Barbarabura, a Burundi refugee, is shown after receiving neck wounds during tribal massacres in Burundi. Barbarabura said Burundi

soldiers came to her house last week and killed her nine children aged one to 15 with bayonets after forcing them to lie on the ground.

Warsaw imposes curfews on 3 striking provinces

WARSAW (AP) — Saying labour unrest forebodes anarchy, authorities Tuesday announced measures to prevent damage to major factories and imposed a curfew in the city at the centre of a series of coal mine strikes.

Officials also confirmed a brief work stoppage in one department of the Nowa Huta steel mill outside Krakow.

The state-run news agency PAP reported that some workers declared new strikes at two more coal mines Monday night. PAP also said workers voluntarily ended a strike Tuesday at a railroad car factory in Wroclaw.

Partial streetcar traffic resumed in the city of Szczecin Tuesday after police dislodged strikers from depots Monday

night, according to PAP, but buses were still affected by a strike.

Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak cited 20 illegal strikes in announcing that law enforcement forces would secure major industrial plants. He also said he had authorised curfews in the Katowice, Szczecin and Gdansk provinces.

Katowice provincial spokesman Ryszard Gil said Tuesday that a curfew would be in effect between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. in Jastrzebie, site of the first coal mine strike a week ago and headquarters of the inter-mine strike committee.

Meanwhile, Zygmunt Lenyk, an opposition spokesman in Krakow, reported that Solidarity Un-

ion activists at the Nowa Huta Steel mill launched a strike in one department of the mill Tuesday morning.

A deputy director of the plant, Jerzy Kanapik, said there were brief stoppages in one department but said the plant was operating fully. Outside the plant, the scene of a major strike in May, dozens of officers patrolled the streets Tuesday.

Witnesses in Krakow saw four columns of army and police vehicles left the city for Katowice, the capital of the strikebound Silesia coal region. Two of the columns consisted of over 70 vehicles, including four water cannons and 10 truckloads of armed soldiers, the witnesses said.

Burmese army stands back as masses protest

RANGOON (R) — More than half a million people demanding "nothing but democracy" thronged Burma's main cities Tuesday as the security forces withdrew behind barricades. Diplomats and residents contacted from Bangkok said more than 100,000 people chanting slogans, raising their fists and waving defiant banners flowed through the centre of Rangoon, the capital.

They said 200,000 marched and demonstrated in the northern city of Mandalay and the same number in Tavoy, in the south, to press for the end of 26 years of one-party Socialist rule.

Diplomats said the number of troops had been sharply reduced in central Rangoon, with armed soldiers only at key points such as embassies, government offices and the city hall.

"They're standing on street

corners looking extremely jittery facing demonstrators behind barbed wire barricades," one Western diplomat said.

One banner strung across a street in central Rangoon said: "This is the answer to the government's call for public opinion." Maung Maung, the former justice minister appointed chairman of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) Friday set up a special committee

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Romania wants U.N. debate on racism

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Romania wants the General Assembly to discuss banning nationalistic or racist demonstrations in member states, and environmental issues such as the dumping of hazardous wastes in other countries. In separate letters to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar published Monday, it proposed these two items be added to the agenda of the general assembly session that opens Sept. 20. One letter referred to the "responsibility of states to ban nationalistic, chauvinistic, racist or anti-semitic demonstrations in their territory," and to refrain from instigating or supporting such acts in other countries.

B-1B to cost \$8 billion more

WASHINGTON (R) — America's troubled B-1B bomber may require \$8 billion in improvements to boost its ability to carry nuclear weapons deep into the Soviet Union, a Congressional report said Monday. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) told the House Armed Services Committee lawmakers they have to decide in the next few years whether to spend substantial additional funds on the strategic swept-wing bomber. The B-1B, built by Rockwell International Corporation, was designed for tree-level penetration missions. But the air force has admitted its electronic counter-measures system may not be able to jam and confuse Soviet radar.

Ortega rules out politics debate

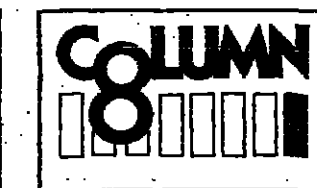
MANAGUA (R) — President Daniel Ortega Monday said Nicaragua's internal politics were its own business and could never be the subject of negotiations with any U.S. government on ending the country's seven-year war. Ortega, whose left-wing government seized power in a broad-based insurrection nine years ago, said Washington was wrong to think it could dictate how Central American countries conducted their affairs. In a speech broadcast on radio, Ortega said he was willing to discuss security issues with the United States, which has backed a war by contra rebels to overthrow the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Serbs plan Kosovo protests

BELGRADE (R) — Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo Province Monday announced plans for a protest in Ljubljana, capital of the Republic of Slovenia, against harassment by Albanian nationalists in the ethnically-torn province. The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said the committee of Kosovo Serbs and Montenegrins, which coordinates protest meetings, had asked the Slovenian Socialist Alliance, a communist-led mass organisation to host the meeting. In four previous mass protests, demonstrators demanded a purge of some party leader for not bringing Albanian separatists in Kosovo under control.

Cardenas files charges

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Opposition leader Cuauhtemoc Cardenas has filed criminal charges against two top election officials, accusing them of failing to release results of the July 6 elections from nearly half of Mexico's voting stations. In his petition Monday night, Cardenas said Manuel Bartlett Diaz, president of the Federal Election Commission, and Fernando Elias Calles, the technical secretary, violated the electoral code by not releasing individual results from more than 24,000 stations. Bartlett also is interior minister. "We asked that the (vote) information be made known and that the authorities fulfill their responsibility," said Cardenas, presidential candidate of the National Democratic Front Coalition.



Wagner violates S. Africa boycott

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Actor Robert Wagner and singer Laura Branigan of the United States have been added to a U.N. list of performers who have appeared in South Africa despite the organisation's appeal to artists to shun the apartheid system. The list is the fifth compiled by the U.N. Centre Against Apartheid since 1981. It also includes the British rock bands Nazareth and Wishbone Ash, U.S. actors Robert Forster and William Windom. Argentine musician Anselmo Osman Cajas and the Mexican circus performer Beautiful Michell.

Duke, duchess of York name baby

LONDON (AP) — The duke and duchess of York have named their 2-week-old daughter Beatrice Elizabeth Mary. Buckingham Palace announced Monday. The baby, who is fifth in line to the throne, will be known as her royal highness the Princess Beatrice of York, the palace said. She is the first child of the former Sarah Ferguson and her husband, Prince Andrew, the second son of Queen Elizabeth II. Britain's newest princess was born on Aug. 8, 1988 at 8:18 p.m., considered one of the luckiest moments of the century by Chinese astrologers, and flew to Scotland hours after leaving Portland hospital in London with her parents Aug. 12.

Funeral museum shows death history

HOLLYWOOD, Florida (AP) — Death may be a constant but the rituals change with the times, as a museum dedicated to dying and bereavement illustrates. Old embalming tools, a 1917 hearse that doubled as an ambulance, intricately braided wreaths of human hair and a 680-kilogramme glass casket are some of the memorabilia in Fred Hunter's Funeral Museum, one of a handful in the United States. "If we can teach a little to a student, and help families understand the history, that death is natural... this helps them understand there's a heritage to this process. The whole funeral process is a part of growing, of letting go," said Hunter. A third-generation funeral director and antique enthusiast, Hunter inherited some displays from his father and grandfather. After he bought a large collection in 1986, there was no longer room to show them off at his business.

Rolling Stones may reunite

LONDON (R) — The Rolling Stones, who have drifted apart in recent years, could be getting back together next year, Mick Jagger said Monday. "We are talking about it for 1989," the lead singer of the group said as he flew out of London's Heathrow Airport bound for Australia via New York. The band, who celebrated the 25th anniversary of their first single two months ago, last toured together in 1982. Its future has been in doubt since reports of rows between Jagger and guitarist Keith Richards. Asked what the essential element would be, Jagger said: "Pleasure, my darling."

Stolen painting returned by thief

OSLO (AP) — "The Vampire" a painting by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch insured for 15 million kroner (\$2.17 million) has been returned to the Munch Museum by a regretful thief, police said Monday. Inspector Odd Mathiesrud identified the suspect as Paal Enger, 21, and said he returned the painting to police headquarters Sunday night. The painting, a 96 by 106 centimetres shows a woman kissing a man on the neck and was one of a series painted by Norway's most noted artist around 1894. It was stolen in February.

Orchestra hits sour note

LONDON (R) — The entire Welsh National Opera orchestra has been fired in a pay dispute in which musicians pressed for higher wages by wearing casual clothes during performances. "You have, by your actions, placed yourselves in breach of your terms of contract of employment, which is terminated with immediate effect," the orchestra's managing director told the 65-member group in a letter leaked to the press. Cellist Simon Davison told reporters that the musicians were "a bit frightened" by the notice but it was hard to get by on a weekly salary of £174

From New York to Dhaka women's plight continues

By Christine Hawkins

HALF the women in the world are living in countries where they have little control over their lives and where there is discrimination against them on account of their gender, according to a study undertaken by the Washington-based Population Crisis Committee.

"The world's poorest women live on the edge of subsistence. They are politically and legally powerless. They are caught in a life cycle that begins with early marriage and pregnancy and too often ends with death in childbirth," says the editor of the study, Sharon Camp.

The stark findings emerge from a ranking of 99 countries according to the conditions of life in them for women, recently published in wallchart form under the title Poor, Powerless and Pregnant.

Twenty indicators were used to allocate scores to the countries, in which 2.3 billion women — 92 per cent of the world's female population — live. They ranged from health measures like expectation of life at birth to women's educational level and their political,

legal and economic equality. All the data came from official or respected sources like the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the United Nations.

No countries reached the chart's "excellent" category. Even in the highest-ranked country, Sweden, women do not have full equality with men. Only a third of Sweden's parliamentary seats, for example, are held by women. Finland, Norway and Denmark, the United States and Canada, and East Germany were other countries near the top of the chart.

Although not enough information was available on several African countries (for example, Zaire), nevertheless the bottom of the scale is sprinkled with names from that continent, including Tanzania and Nigeria. They are joined by the traditionally male-dominated countries of Asia and the Arab World, for example Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Some of the most striking comparisons come from looking at the top and bottom countries on the scale. In Bangladesh, the last-ranked country,

one in five girls dies before her fifth birthday, but in Sweden only one in 167 does so. In Bangladesh, one in six 15-year-old girls will not survive her childbearing years (a third of these deaths arising from pregnancy and childbirth), whereas in Sweden only one in 53 dies between 15 and 45.

Few of the highest-scoring country's 15-19 year-olds have experienced marriage, but nearly 70 per cent have in the lowest-scoring country. The proportion of women practising contraception in Bangladesh is three times that in Bangladesh (25 per cent) while current fertility rates in the two countries imply that each woman in Bangladesh will on average give birth to nearly four times as many children as the average woman in Sweden.

Men and women in developed countries enjoy death rates far more favourable than those in developing countries — at its most extreme a woman in Switzerland could expect, at current mortality rates, to live 82 years compared with 41 years for a woman in Afghanistan. In general, though, women's life expectancy is lon-

ger than men's — the difference is seven years on average in industrialised countries. However, in developing countries this gap shrinks to two years — apart from in Bangladesh and Nepal, where men's expectation of life is longer — the only places where this occurs. It reflects the poorer outlook girls face at birth and in their first five years — there and in some other parts of the world — compared with boys.

Further disadvantages for women can be cited in all the spheres covered: 927 widowed, divorced or separated women for every 100 women in these categories in Bangladesh; one-fifth of households headed by lone women in some Latin American countries, two-fifths in many rural areas in Africa (often the result of male migration to the towns) and one-sixth in the United States (a consequence of high pregnancy rates among unmarried teenagers and high divorce rates).

Though education is an area where women have made strides towards equality recently, a bias remains in many countries still. This leads to

poorer employment prospects, and lower paid jobs. To compound women's lot, their low status is reinforced in many countries by the law. For example, in some countries women must have male "guardians"; their husbands may have more than one wife but women cannot initiate divorce. Even where the law is not so harsh, there may still be barriers to women achieving equality in marriage and the family, apart from barriers to achieving economic and political power.

"One of the most pressing needs for half the world's women is achieving real choices over childbearing," says Dr. Camp. "This means assuring universal access to safe and effective birth control." Other ways of improving women's lives mentioned by Camp are reforms to give women more equal access to better-paid jobs and to credit, and equal rights to own property; and expansion of education and training for women; and a recognition — by governments, husbands, and employers — of the social value of childbearing. — People News/Features.